

# HALESOWEN CHRONICLE



Thursday, August 23, 2012

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## Results joy

Students and colleges celebrating record scores

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## Competition

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## Twitter tangle

Derby rivals are warned following a spat online

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## Family's holiday is ruined by burglary

BURGLARS ransacked the home of a Halesowen family while they were on holiday, stealing jewellery, a laptop and a knife.

Michael and Jane Rogers and their children Kate, aged 17, and David, 21, were sitting overlooking the sea at a restaurant in Portugal when they got the call from police telling them raiders had struck at their home in Tanhouse Lane.

They arrived home two days later to find the burglars had smashed their way in through the patio doors and stolen jewellery of sentimental value, a laptop, keys to the family's utility room and other items, including David's old Territorial Army knife.

Mr Rogers, a 70-year-old factory worker, estimates the total value of the haul, together with the damage caused, will be more than £5,000.

He is offering a £200 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for the crime.

Mr Rogers said: "The jewellery included rings from my parents and Jane's mother, which were of sentimental value, and I don't know how you can put a value on that."

The family at first tried to organise flights home immediately but that proved too expensive.

## Pool tragedy boy's funeral

THE FUNERAL of a tragic 15-year-old who drowned in a disused quarry lake near Dudley has taken place.

Augusto Zacarias died after falling about four metres from a ledge into the Blue Lagoon waters at the Marl Hole pool near the Crooked House pub in Himley on July 25.

Family and friends of the young footballer, whose family moved from Portugal to live in Sedgley, attended a service at Dudley Christian Fellowship in Dudley. He had been in the country less than three weeks.

# MASSIVE WELCOME FOR OLYMPIC HERO

by Adam Burling

**HUNDREDS of cheering fans gathered in Halesowen to give Olympic medallist Kristian Thomas a hero's welcome at the gymnastics club where he started his road to glory.**

The 23-year-old was greeted by loud cheers when he arrived at the special event held in his honour at the Earls Gymnastics Club, Halesowen. Kristian made history when he helped secure a bronze medal in the Team GB gymnastics squad – the first time British men have done so in a century. More than 300 people gathered at the club in Furnace Lane – which was closed to traffic for the occasion – to catch a glimpse of their hero, despite a heavy downpour. Part of the event this week had to be moved inside the club due to the bad weather, but the rain failed to dampen the spirits and the sun even made an appearance when Kristian arrived.

Among the crowd was Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Melynn Mottram, along with members of Halesowen's athletics, cycling and cricket clubs and Old Halesonians Rugby Club and Halesowen Town FC.

Kristian, of Wednesfield, Wolverhampton looked shocked when he saw the crowds waving flags and banners as he turned up wearing his Team GB tracksuit.

The former St Edmund's School pupil made a short speech, during which he thanked everyone for their support, before posing for pictures with families and signing autographs.

He said: "This has been absolutely amazing. I didn't expect anything like this – they kept it all really quiet and just told me to turn up in my tracksuit and bring my medal and a smile."

### Interested

"I'm so grateful to everyone for making the effort to come out. It's great to see so many people who are genuinely interested in gymnastics."

The event at the club, where Kristian has trained two or three times a week since he was five, was organised by chairman John Caulwell.

He said: "We are extremely proud of Kristian's fantastic achievement. He has worked tirelessly with his personal coach Michelle Bradley to reach the very top of his sport."

Among the crowds braving the rain were Nicki Bolton and her children William, six and eight-year-old Emma, who goes to recreational gymnastics classes at the club.

Mrs Bolton, of Quinton, said: "I bet he has made his way through plenty of storms to get to training so the least we can do is come and show our support."

"He is a real inspiration to children like Emma and she wants to end up at the Olympics like him."



Olympic bronze medal winning gymnast Kristian Thomas gets a massive welcome at the Earls Gymnastics Club, Furnace Lane, Halesowen as he shows off his medal



Olympian Kristian proudly shows off his bronze medal at the reception



Kristian poses for pictures with young fans who turned out to welcome him

## Stranded couple tell of ordeal in Tenerife

A HALESOWEN couple who were among holidaymakers stranded abroad for more than 50 hours because of a fault with their aeroplane has spoken of their ordeal.

Around 150 passengers arrived back at Birmingham Airport at 2.30am on Tuesday after spending more than two days stuck in Tenerife.

They had been due to fly home on Saturday night but the Monarch airline crew discovered a problem with the door hatch.

The passengers were put up in a hotel in Tenerife's capital Santa Cruz while engineers worked to fix the fault.

But passengers said they were "kept in the dark" about any plans to return them home.

Monarch has apologised for the inconvenience and given each passenger £100 in compensation and a £100 flight voucher.

Among those hit by the delay were Esther and Gary Rowley, from Halesowen, who holiday in Tenerife every year.

Mrs Rowley, a 42-year-old payroll co-ordinator, said the passengers had been told there was a delay.

"About 45 minutes went by and everybody was getting restless. It was so hot on the plane and we asked if we could get off," she said.

Mrs Rowley said they would be making an official complaint.

## Boy rescued from mud

A TEENAGER was rescued by firefighters after getting stuck in waist-deep mud for more than two hours.

Fire crews were called to a brook near Himley Hall on Sunday after his family raised the alarm.

The 16-year-old, who was suffering from shock, was pulled free after crews set up a bridge over the mud using ladders so they did not become stuck themselves.

His family took him to Russells Hall Hospital to have him checked out following his release.

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HALESOWEN

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## Home-loving Big Brother runner-up



Adam Kelly

A FORMER gang member from Dudley has told of his joy at finishing second in Big Brother – and how he was looking forward to returning home.

Just eight months ago Adam Kelly had a temporary job as a shop assistant at Toys R Us in Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury.

But now the 27-year-old, who lives in Oakham Road with his sister, Shelley and niece, Shana said he is “living a dream” despite missing out on the £50,000 prize in the Channel Five reality show. Walsall

model Deana Uppal, a 23-year-old former pupil at Tivdale Comprehensive School pupil, Oldbury, who finished third.

Adam, who has relatives in Oldbury, was beaten by his best friend in the house, Luke Anderson, admitted he never expected to reach the final two. He was born in Burton-on-Trent but raised in Los Angeles where he became a member of the infamous LA Crips gang.

He moved to Dudley a year ago after leaving the gang behind and said he now sees

the Black Country town as his home. He said at the end of the series: “I can’t wait to get back to my own bed and wake up when I want and smoke whenever I want.”

“I’m really glad that I went on the show. I didn’t know anything about it when I applied – I had just seen the end of Celebrity Big Brother and decided to fill in the form. It has been a great experience. I have been down a lot of roads in my life and things like this just don’t happen to people like me. It’s crazy.”

## Smell of drugs led to raid on house

A CANNABIS grower has been jailed for 18 months after 34 plants were found in a Dudley house.

Police were called to the then home of Sean Kelly, aged 27, after neighbours smelled the drug near the detached house he was renting from a friend in Northcott Road.

Kelly, who now lives in Pye Hayes Road, Erdington, pleaded guilty at Wolverhampton Crown Court to producing cannabis and extracting electricity.

Kelly was out on licence after being sentenced to seven years for death by dangerous driving.

## Lost

Mr Mark Rees, prosecuting, said: “As the police got nearer the house they could smell the cannabis.”

Police asked him about the smell on May 6 this year.

Mr Rees told the court that police also found a lighting set with timers.

Sarah Hurd, defending, said Kelly had been on licence for 14 months and needed money.

She said: “He got himself a job, but he lost it after his employer found out about his prison sentence, which got him depressed.”

Judge Martin Walsh jailed Kelly for 15 months for cultivating cannabis and three months for extracting electricity to run consecutively.

## Go-ahead for bridge work

A PROJECT to restore a historic bridge affected by mining subsidence over the Birmingham New Main Line Canal at Cosely has been given the go-ahead.

British Waterways will start repair work in September after funding of around £18,000 was secured. It expected to take six weeks.

Officials said it will safeguard the future of the bridge, which has Grade II listed building status. A planning application was approved by Dudley Council.

## Rambling time

A GUIDED walk in the Clent Hills, near Stourbridge, will be held on September 12. The three-hour ramble will start from Nimmings Wood car park. Book on 01562 712822 or email laura.broadhurst@national-trust.org.uk

## Tragic families unite in demand for heart tests

A coroner says national screening is vital to detect potentially fatal heart defects. **LOUISE JEW** reports.

**THEY are often very fit and sporty – but hundreds of young people aged under 35 die in this country every year from a sudden, undiagnosed heart problem.**

Luke Chapman, from Hagley, a strapping 6ft tall 15-year-old, died from a sudden irregular heartbeat while playing rugby for his school at Kidderminster on March 20.

Halesowen 14-year-old Leon Mansell, a keen footballer who wanted to be a PE teacher, met a similar fate as he laughed and joked with friends in January last year, and fitness instructor Zoe Teale, from Cheslyn Hay, also died suddenly.

Now Birmingham Deputy Coroner Miss Sarah Ormond-Walsh has called for the Department of Health to consider launching a national heart screening programme after carrying out an inquest on Luke Chapman, of Meadowcroft, Hagley, who not only played for his school, Haybridge High, Hagley, but also Old Halesonians Rugby Club.

## Figure

But the Department of Health has so far rejected appeals for such screening, although it will reconsider the issue this year.

Expert cardiac pathologist Dr Mary Sheppard, of the Royal Brompton Hospital, London, told the Birmingham inquest that 10 to 12 otherwise healthy people aged under 35 died every week from sudden adult death arrhythmia – irregular heartbeat – in this country, often while doing sport.

She said the figure could be as high as 800 deaths a year.

The charity Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY), which offers screening sessions, including some in the West Midlands, says that in Italy, where testing is mandatory for all young people active in sport, the sudden



Luke Chapman – his death spurred screening plea

cardiac death rate has been reduced by a staggering 90 per cent.

The charity believes that everyone between the ages of 14 and 35 should have access to cardiac screening as 80 per cent of young, sudden cardiac deaths occur with no prior symptoms.

“The only way to find young people who harbour this condition is by participating in a proactive screening process,” said CRY’s chief executive and founder Alison Cox.

“Sport does not cause sudden cardiac death – but it can significantly increase a person’s risk if they have an underlying condition.

“We are increasingly getting sports bodies making the decisions to use our screening but there should be a national screening programme by experts, particularly after the wonderful success of the Olympics.”

But a Department of Health spokesman said that, so far, the UK National Screening Committee did not recommend launching such a programme. “This is because they found in 2008 that there is a consid-

erable risk either of false positives, or of having heart problems that tests do not pick up,” he said.

“This will be kept under review, and the committee will consider its advice again this year.”

Luke’s parents have backed the coroner’s calls. His father Matthew, aged 47, said: “A lot die young – 800 a year, which is a whole school.”

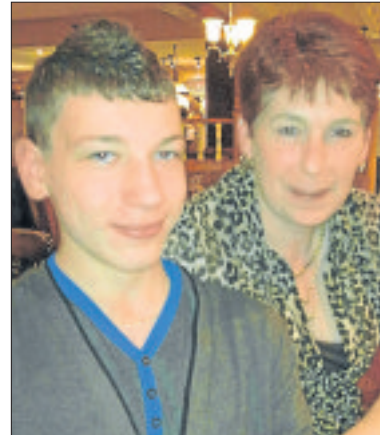
The Chapmans have been advised that close relatives of Luke should be tested to find out whether his condition could run in the family.

## Referred

Members of Leon Mansell’s family – his mother, Jean, brothers Craig, 24, and Matthew, 19, and sister Kerrie, 20, who is four months pregnant – have already undergone similar tests following last year’s inquest on his death and were told they were fit and well.

However, his father, Bernard, who lives in California, was referred to a cardiologist for further tests.

Zoe’s parents Peter and Julie Teale, have raised £60,000 since she died in her sleep in September 2009



Leon Mansell – the keen footballer died at age 14

to raise awareness and to launch heart screening sessions for young people in the West Midlands.

They have banked the money with CRY to organise annual testing sessions by an expert team at Stourbridge’s Oldswinford Hospital School, where Mr Teale works as the catering manager, and at Aston Villa Football Club.

And they are sure their actions have already saved lives among the 200 pupils screened so far at the school and the 500 at Aston Villa.

Mr Teale, aged 50, said: “We had one 14-year-old boy screened at Aston Villa who would have been dead within four years – but a simple operation saved him.

“Around 10 per cent of those screened are found to have some kind of problem, whether minor or major, and they are then referred on to a cardiologist for further tests. Not all would have been fatal but some would.”

Zoe, who worked at Fitness First gym, Wednesbury, was unaware of her heart defect.

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## £10,000 wrongly claimed

A HALESOWEN man was overpaid £10,711 in benefits while he failed to own up to working more than 16 hours a week.

Aurangzeb Mohammed, aged 42, of Mastors Lane, admitted failing to notify the Department for Work and Pensions of a change of circumstances affecting his entitlement to income support between August 2008 and November 2011.

Dudley magistrates adjourned sentencing until September 12 to await a report on whether Mohammed would be suitable to carry out unpaid community work.

Mr Mark Cooper, prosecuting, said Mohammed's claim was originally legitimate and confirmed he was able to work up to 16 hours a week without it affecting his benefit.

But then he was found to have been working 25 hours a week without notifying the DWP.

Mr Cooper added that Mohammed was overpaid a total of £10,711.41.

Mr Suresh Joshi, defending, told the court Mohammed would repay the amount through a lump sum raised in a sale, which he viewed as belonging to his wife.

## Charity is to set up choir

A CHOIR is being set up by a Dudley charity.

Dudley Mind is starting the "Feelgood Choir" in the town to help people socialise.

It will be run by jazz and soul artist Martin Trotman, who said: "I've seen how people have developed their confidence, made friends and gained skills and experiences in my current choir."

The choir will start rehearsals on Wednesday nights from 5.30pm on September 26.

Call 01384 442 398, or see [www.dudleymind.org.uk](http://www.dudleymind.org.uk)

## Inquest on man, 64, is adjourned

A STOURBRIDGE man who suffered with motor neuron disease died suddenly at home, an inquest heard.

Metalogist Martin Keith Davies, aged 64, died at his home in Stewkings, Ambleside, on August 11.

Black Country Coroner Robin Balmain adjourned the hearing at Smethwick Coroner's office.



Halesowen A-level students Sophie Beckley, left, and Natalie Lampett



Three high flying students from Oldswinford Hospital School who are off to study medicine – from left Olivia Horton, George Kuligowski and Lia Davies

# Students and college's joy over record A Level results

**THERE were plenty of smiles and a few tears as A Level results day was played out at colleges and sixth forms in Dudley borough.**

Dudley College celebrated its best ever results success with a pass rate of 98.3 per cent – up from last year's 97 per cent.

Sunny Ahmed whooped with delight at the A and two Cs that are his passport to study journalism at Middlesex University. Sara Bobash at first shed a few tears at not quite making the grade for her first choice of going on to the University of Birmingham to study law.

But Sara, a champion hammer thrower, aged 18, of Willenhall Road, Wolverhampton, was all smiles when she learned her B grades in ICT and English Literature and C in law will get her into Wolverhampton University.

The silver lining is studying law in Wolverhampton will be a lot cheaper than in Birmingham – and she will be better placed to keep up her training with Wolverhampton and Bileston Running Club, as she sets her sights on representing Team GB at the Rio Olympics in 2016.

### Culture

Sunny, aged 20, achieved an A in communication and culture and Cs in business studies and film studies – and, even before he opened his results, he checked the UCAS website to find he had won his place at Middlesex, were part of his studies will be at a campus in Dubai.

"I couldn't sleep all last night, tossing and turning – and now I'm still surprised I've done so well and won my place at Middlesex," said Sunny, of Woodside Road, Holly Hall, Dudley, a former pupil at Holly Hall School.

He said some of his friends had been put off going to university because of the hike in tuition fees. "But, although it will cost me £9,000 a year and rent of £130 a week to go to Middlesex University, I see it as something I've got to do to invest in my future," he added.

Stourbridge College was celebrating a 99 per cent pass rate across all of the subjects.



Celebrating their A level results at Dudley College are, from left, Sunny Ahmed, Sara Bobash, Phill Hammersley, Patrycja Figler, Matthew Ward and Jordan Zhao

Staff said results in courses such as law, drama, geography and history had shown "greatly improved results."

At King Edward VI College, Stourbridge, half of the students receiving their A-level results walked away with a prized A or A\* grade, with an overall pass rate of 99.5 per cent. Principal Sharon Phillips said the results were "truly outstanding". Students at Oldswinford Hospital School, also in Stourbridge, achieved an overall pass rate of 96 per cent.

And 81.1 per cent of these passes were at grades A\* or B.

Eleven students have had places confirmed to study medicine. Among them are three students who each got three A\* grades – George Kuligowski, from Kinver, Olivia Horton, from Kingswinford, and Lia Davies, from Kinver.

Meanwhile, Haybridge High School and Sixth Form at Hagley achieved an overall pass rate of 99.1 per cent.

The percentage of A\* to B grades leapt to 57.4 per cent. Outstanding results included Phoebe Facer, who got four A\* grades, Matt Jones, with four A\* grades and one A, and Archie McNeillis with four A\* grades. Laura Tuck got four A\* grades.

Halesowen College students have been celebrating after another record year for A level and vocational results – with 98.6 per cent achieving a pass.

### Advanced

Twenty seven A level subjects achieved a 100 per cent pass rate including Archaeology, Economics, Law, Media, Film Studies and Environmental Studies. And already record numbers of advanced vocational students have attained triple distinction stars grades in their Extended Diplomas (equivalent to three A levels).

Gavin Kelleher, aged 18, was celebrating after achieving an A\* in Business Studies and an A in Accounts and Information and Communication Technology. The former

pupil of Coseley High School will be going to Leeds University to study International Business.

Gavin, from Coseley, said: "I am so pleased with my results as I was very nervous. I am delighted with my A\* grade, it's wonderful."

Sophie Beckley and Natalie Lampett, both former students of Earls High School, were also delighted with their results and will be celebrating later.

Sophie, aged 18, from Cradley Heath, achieved an A\* in Media and an A grade in English Language and Literature and History. She is going to study Marketing at Aston University.

She said: "I am really pleased with my grades, I have really enjoyed my time at Halesowen College and will now continue studying for my chosen career."

Natalie, from Halesowen, received an A\* in Communications and Culture and an A in Media and Sociology.

## NEWS in brief

### Opinions sought on revamp plans

RESIDENTS and businesses in Cradley still have time to have their say on potential improvements in the Windmill Hill area.

The proposals, which could see work along Colley Gate and Windmill Hill, would be designed to improve access and make it more attractive to residents and visitors.

Displays on the potential improvements including new or improved street furniture, tree planting, green spaces and public art are on view until September 7 at Cradley Library.

All feedback will help to formulate funding bids and packages.

### Ex-zoo office close to sale

AN OFFICE building formerly used by Dudley Zoo is close to being sold. Estate agent CP Bigwood confirmed the castle-style building in The Broadway with a price tag of £65,000 is under offer.

The site was used by the zoo until the end of March when a new office block was opened behind Dudley Hippodrome as part of a £10 million revamp at the zoo.

### Appeal for help to track family

A BROTHER and sister are appealing for information to help track down their siblings after losing touch. Irene and Graham Smith are trying to find Barbara Joan, John and Tracy Ann Morris, who had been living in Long Lane, Walsall.

They are also looking for sisters Jacqueline and Janet, who are believed to have moved back to Dudley. Email [jmh.9@live.com](mailto:jmh.9@live.com) or call 01384 353203.

### Theatre lines up its new season

DUDLEY Little Theatre will open its new season at Netherton Arts Centre with three nights of Hound of the Baskervilles on September 5.

It will be followed by The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe from December 5 to 8, Jane Eyre from March 6 to 9. The Office, by Ricky Gervais and Stephen Merchant, will be put on in May.

### Time to socialise

THE next event for Stourbridge business community's Pint After Work group will be on August 22 at Graham's Place, Bridgnorth Road, Wollaston, at 5.30pm.

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## NEWS

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FROM the town of Kempton in Bavaria comes news of a mass brawl involving two families. One clan moved a park bench into the sunshine. Then the other lot turned up and said they always used that bench and wanted it in the shade. One family then rushed off and came back with chains and a padlock (so organised, these Germans) to prevent the others from moving it. After a bit of pushing and shoving the police arrived. And you wonder why the Germans always manage to grab the sunbeds on holiday. They spend the rest of the year practising.

□□□□□□□□

NO SOONER had the above item appeared online a few days ago than the politically-correct brigade descended on me by email, raging with the usual anonymous, holier-than-thou fury. One denounced it as "a childish piece of racist nonsense" and another declared piously that "journalism like this makes me ashamed to be English." Several called for me to be sacked. Listen. I will say this only once. I have German friends. They love Britain. They adore our countryside, our coastline and most of our food. But the one thing they admire, cherish and envy more than anything else is our irreverent British sense of humour. I know they would laugh like a drain about the Bavarian bench-nicking story.

□□□□□□□□

SAD tale from a cyclist following the suggestion a few days back that all bike riders should have a bicycle bell. He fitted one some years ago and rang it "in a friendly manner" at a group of ramblers. Their leader, a 70-something with a walking stick, struck him and yelled: "How dare you ring that \*\*\*ing thing at me." Eager to avoid similar offence, the cyclist removed the bell. A little later he approached a group of ramblers, shouted "a friendly salutation" and was duly whacked on the back by the group leader, again a 70-something bloke with a walking stick who yelled: "Get a \*\*\*ing bell on that bike."

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Traders seek payouts on roadworks impact

**Traders left hundreds of pounds out of pocket due to roadworks outside their shops will seek compensation as some continue to count the cost of lost trade.**

Resurfacing work took place along Brockmoor High Street and Leys Road, in Brierley Hill, at the end of June and into early July, causing trade at shops to plummet.

And businesses along the route said they would be seeking compensation to try to cover the costs of lost custom during the period.

During the work motorists travelling from Wordsley could not access Leys Road for a half-mile stretch up Brockmoor High Street.

A diversion was put in place in Moor Street from the junction with Leys Road linking back to Brockmoor High Street via Fenton Street or to join Brierley Hill High Street.

Traders said this had caused them to lose out on vital passing trade leading to a drop in takings at an already difficult time.

Rani Raj, of Select and Save, in Brockmoor High Street, said they were still counting the costs of the work. "Business is inconsis-

tent during the first three weeks of the summer holiday but having the work take place so close to this period means we have felt the impact even more," she said.

"We will be seeking compensation for the trade we lost during the roadworks.

Fellow trader Mark Wardley, of Black Country Bait and Tackle, also in High Street, said he was also seeking compensation.

"Thankfully, more people are coming through now and I have seen an upturn in trade and hopefully this will continue," he said.

"However, business was affected during the period of the roadworks."

Councillor Judy Foster previously said the project was vital to the area.

## Warning on car cats thefts

POLICE are warning motorists to be vigilant after seven catalytic converters were stolen from vehicles in the past four weeks.

Metal thieves have targeted Cars in Halesowen, Stourbridge and Brierley Hill for the high-value parts.

## Laser firm a cut above the rest



Midtherm Laser Ltd operations director Dean Cockayne at the construction site

A £2.3 million expansion of a laser cutting firm in Dudley that will increase staff by at least a quarter is nearing completion.

The 8,000 sq ft premises at Midtherm Laser Ltd, Peartree Lane, is due to be finished in November – a month ahead of schedule, bosses have revealed.

The firm is initially taking on and training four shop floor staff while another two production and office and sales staff will be recruited, increasing numbers employed from 32 to 40.

And bosses say there could be even more new jobs in the coming months.

Midtherm bought council-owned land next to its 12,000sq ft building last year for the extension which will house a fifth state-of-the-art cutting machine, a press brake machine and tracking for storing sheet materials.

They have also ordered one of the UK's first Bystronic 3Kw Fiber Laser.

The new machines will allow materials to be cut quicker, which will save the company money, bosses say.

Operations director Dean Cockayne said: "It's nice to see that our long-term plans are coming to fruition."

## Annual event to attract crowds

ALL the fun of the fair will return for an annual celebration in the heart of Netherton next month.

More than 3,000 people have attended the extravaganza each year since it launched in 2008.

Street performers, funfair attractions and live music will welcome people to the festival on September 8.

The festival was previously known as Victorian Day but Olympic fever has been incorporated this year.

One of the highlights is a drama performance with Queen Victoria strolling the streets.

Events are based around Netherton Arts Centre and the Savoy Centre, in Northfield Road, which will be closed for the day.

The entertainment runs from 9.30am to 6pm and attractions include Olympic sport displays, Morris dancers and penny farthing riders.

Organiser, the Netherton Regeneration Strategic Group, is looking for traders to take a pitch. Call 01384 813943.

## Revenge date

A THEATRE group will bring a black comedy to Brierley Hill next month. Caramba's Revenge, by the Community Players, tells the story of three women who keep their friend's death a secret. It runs September 5 to 8 at the Oakfield Centre. Call 01384 394349.

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## Advice on hand over disability

A DISABILITY group in Dudley is setting up shop in the town to offer twice weekly help sessions.

Dudley Centre for Inclusive Living has moved into the Time Step Community Hub, on the lower floor of Plaza Mall in King Street.

Help will be offered from the shop every Monday and Thursday between 1pm.

The first session started on Monday.

Volunteers will give out information on blue badge parking, direct payments, social care and public transport. Practical information on holidays and eating out will also be given.

The group was set up in 2010 by couple Ken and Tracey McClymont, both campaigners for disabled people.

Mrs McClymont said: "All of our volunteers have disabilities and we think that this puts us in the best position to support others with disability related issues."

The group has been supported by charity Time Step Community Hub, which has given meeting and office space.

## Dart funds day

A CHARITY darts contest will take place at a Cradley pub on September 1. The 12-hour fundraising marathon will be at The Gate, Colley Gate. It will start at 10.30am and will also include a disco and raffle. Money raised will go towards funding sports activities for children with learning disabilities.

# School prom limousine firm had no operation insurance

A DUDLEY limousine firm which takes youngsters to school proms across the region has received a £1,000 court bill after being caught in a sting operation without a private hire licence or valid insurance.

Council officers swooped after a father who wanted to book a vehicle for his daughter's school prom asked if Splash Limousines was licensed. When licensing officials then made a booking they found the firm did not have a licence to operate private hire vehicles, Dudley Magistrates Court heard last week.

By Adam Burling

The insurance policies, which stated they covered private hire cars, therefore became invalid, Mr Tim Holder, prosecuting, said.

The firm is run by Lee Jeavons and Rachel Marson, who said they could end up going out of business as a result of the court hearing.

Marson and Jeavons, who drove the limousine, told magistrates they believed they were covered by the insurance and said council officials told them the authority did not license limousines, so they thought they could continue operating.

Mr Shabir Qureshi, defending, said: "Five years ago there was a lot of talk among other limo companies that a private hire licence may be required, but Miss Marson was given the clear impression that there was no need for this in Dudley."

But enforcement officer Trevor Parkes said the

council had started licensing limousines three years ago due to a change in the law.

"He said they should have been aware of this and needed to apply for a new licence."

But the couple claimed all they had been sent was information relating to taxis and Hackney carriages.

Jeavons, 32, of Pensnett Road, Dudley, admitted using a vehicle without third party insurance and driving and operating a private hire vehicle without a licence.

Marson, 28, of Greenfield Road, Kingswinford, admitted permitting the use of a vehicle with no insurance, and operating a private hire vehicle without a licence.

They were each fined £300, ordered to pay £200 costs and a £15 victim surcharge.

Six points were put on their driving licences.

## Diamond day for long-running marriage



Eva and Ron Bentley celebrate their diamond wedding anniversary at their home



The couple's wedding day



Ron's record run in 1973

A LONG-DISTANCE runner has looked back over his record-breaking career as he prepares to celebrate another milestone – celebrating 60 years of wedded bliss.

Ron Bentley, aged 81, achieved running fame in 1973 when he completed 161 miles in a single 24-hour event held at Walton-on-Thames – a new world record at the time.

It was not the only running success he enjoyed. In 1971 he won a 100-mile race held in London completing it in a time of 12 hours and 37 minutes – the third fastest time in the world.

Mr Bentley joined Tipton Harriers in 1951 after leaving the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. He remains club president.

"The feeling I got from taking part in these events was wonderful," he said. Mr Bentley, of Prospect Road, Gornal Wood, is now celebrating another achievement as he and wife Eva celebrate their diamond wedding.

They were married at Hurst Hill Methodist Church on August 16 1952. They first met in 1949 at a dance held at St Peter's Church, Upper Gornal.

The couple have two children 57-year-old Jane and 53-year-old Ron and three grandchildren.

Mr Bentley, now 81, said: "My wife was always very supportive of my running. She made a lot of sacrifices."

## NEWS in brief

### Children can get bug for nature

CHILDREN can hunt for the Dudley Bug at Wren's Nest National Nature Reserve on August 28.

Wardens will take them back to a time when the borough was under water at the bottom of a tropical sea and life existed only on coral reefs and shallow lagoons.

Children must be accompanied by an adult, and sturdy footwear is recommended for the 10am-12.30pm session as the walk includes slopes and steps. Places need to be booked on 01384 812785.

### Pageant for glass makers

WORKSHOPS are being held in Stourbridge for youngsters to take part in the finale of the International Festival of Glass.

The Glassionistas show will feature a Mardi Gras-style pageant on August 25 and 26 at 3pm at the Ruskin Glass Centre. Inspired by Andrew Logon and Zandra Rhodes' Glitzy Glass Fashion Show at the 2006 Glass Festival, it is described as "part show, part parade". To book tickets call 01384 399410.

### Flats plan for pub

PLANS to convert a former Halesowen pub into housing have been lodged.

The proposals for seven one-bedroom flats are for The Nelson, Highfield Lane.

Dudley Council will make a decision within two months.

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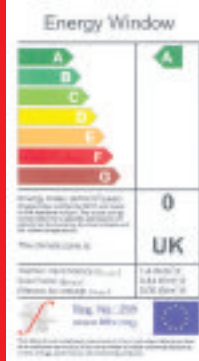
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## NEWS

# Charity night planned in memory of tragic mother



Mia Griffin with grandmother Carol Griffin and aunt Gill Geary with children's entertainer Alex Silk all ready for a charity event in memory of Nikki Griffin

**A MOTHER of two, who died of skin cancer, will be honoured by her family when they hold a fundraising night as a tribute to her.**

Nikki Griffin, of Stourbridge, was diagnosed with an aggressive form of skin cancer at Christmas 2010 and battled the disease for more than a year. She died in January aged 41.

Her heartbroken family said they had wanted to repay the kindness of palliative nurses at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital, who had helped care for Nikki in her final days.

She previously ran a wedding business, called Memories Forever, in the grounds of David Lloyd's Gym, in Brierley Hill.

Nikki's brother, Christopher, a doctor in London, arranged for her to undergo experimental treatment which has worked for many patients.

But unfortunately for Nikki it was unsuccessful.

### Designed

Carol said: "We are hoping the fundraising evening will be well supported and we hope to raise thousands of pounds for the nurses who were so kind to Nikki."

"We wanted to do something for them and as a fitting tribute to Nikki."

The event will be staged at the Copthorne Hotel, in Brierley Hill, on October 6 from 7pm until midnight and feature music, family entertainment and a raffle.

It has been organised by Nikki's mother Carol, her aunt Gillian Geary and her

nine-year-old daughter Mia. Gillian has designed the



Nikki Griffin

tickets for the event with help from Mia who has had a say in their final look.

Nikki's 24-year-old son Jayden has also helped to sell tickets for the event. The family hopes to raise thousands of pounds for the palliative nurses.

And staff at Peters Hill Primary School, which is attended by Mia, agreed to support the nurses as their annual charity next year.

To book tickets for £10, can call 07525 367295 or 07828 262887.

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## LETTERS

# No justice over attack on dog

DURING the afternoon of August 14 my dog was badly attacked by another dog in Vale Street park, Upper Gornal, leaving him with a large portion of an ear torn off and several other serious bite marks.

The dog ran the length of the football pitch to attack and was not on a lead or wearing a collar. Even when we did manage to separate the dogs, the other owners didn't put its lead or collar on so couldn't hold him. He got free to attack my dog again and cause further serious injury and distress.

My two young children were a witness to this and became extremely

upset. The dog's owner then attempted to leave the park and take no responsibility so I followed him and called the police, who did attend and apprehend the man and his dog.

They were unable to take any action because the dog didn't attack a human. They did say they were going to seize it as a possible pit bull type, but if it wasn't the dog would be returned to the owner to do the same again.

How is it possible that such a dangerous dog can be allowed to attack other dogs in a public park without any sanction? Fortunately, I was able to waste into the fight to help release my dog but

there are plenty of people who walk their dogs in parks who would not have been able to intervene - what would have happened to their dog?

I am now left with a huge vet bill, a dog with serious injuries and in great pain, and very distressed children and wife. The owner of the attacking dog walks away scott free. Where is the justice in this? I intend to launch a campaign.

If any readers have any similar issues or would like to join or help out with the campaign please contact me at helpfordogs2012@gmail.com  
NEIL WATTS

## Praise for work of the NHS

NOT a week goes by without someone who has experienced urgent NHS medical intervention, contacting you to express their thanks to those concerned.

It is easy for the reader to treat such letters with flippancy but it is only when you have personal experience of such treatment do you grasp their true meaning and also realise what a terrific institution we have in the NHS.

Following my recent aortic aneurysm repair and simultaneous dual heart valve surgery, I can testify to the professionalism, judgement, dedication, patience and courage of all NHS staff that cared for me. To Mr Billing and his team on the Cardiothoracic Ward at the Heart and Lung Centre, New Cross Hospital, and Mr Forsey, at Russells Hall Hospital, my family and I would like you to know that we owe you a debt of gratitude that we cannot hope to repay.

MRS G. SLATER  
Lower Gornal

## LETTERS to the Editor

### POST

Dudley Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

### E-MAIL

Dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

## Time to end parking this 'tax of the sick'

DUDLEY Council's attempts at easing the car parking problem around Russells Hall Hospital may have been done in good faith in an attempt to help local residents, but what their actions are actually achieving is the exact opposite by adding more fuel on the "tax on the sick" monopoly fire.

The simple fact is that the more restrictions the council places around the hospital, the less choice staff and visitors have but to cough up our hard earned cash to park.

Why is it the council cannot see the best way to solve the problem is to revert to the original system of free hospital parking for patients, staff and visitors? Then why would anyone want to park on the surrounding roads anymore?

What sort of a twisted country do we now live in that disabled visitors have to use their rights to park freely on the double yellow lines around the hospital and struggle across the busy road to avoid the tax on the "tax on the sick" charges on NHS ground? Charging disabled persons to park at a hospital is about as mean and greedy as it gets.

Time to end the private ghouls tax on the sick monopoly and give English hospitals visitors and our doctors and dentists surgeries free hospital parking for all. Simple.

G E FANTHOM, Hinksford Gardens, Swindon

## Press red for anger over TV

WE enjoyed watching the Olympic Games, what we could see of them.

We have Freeview, but could not access many of the programmes. For instance, on many occasions, we were told the coverage continues on the red button. This was dormant.

Press the red button, then the blue and nothing. We were told that it would be easy.

What the heck were we supposed to do when cycling events were taking place, as was evident from the action on the screen, but all we could get was the Jake Humphries Show. Is, or was, he more important than the action?

On numerous occasions, prize presentations were taking place, and the presenters/commentators were talking over the ceremonies.

We enjoyed what we were able to see but sadly, I am glad that it is over.

PETER COLE  
Chelford Crescent  
Kingswinford

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## NEWS

# Take your seats as zoo's old chairlift lives again



Getting ready to take a ride on the refurbished chairlift at Dudley Zoo is chief executive Peter Suddock

**IT HAS been restored back to its former glory ready to start carrying visitors for the first time in 12 years.**

And Dudley Zoo bosses are giving a sneak peak at the newly-refurbished chairlift before the iconic attraction is finally unveiled to the public. Scaffolding has finally been dismantled from the towering structure - bringing an end to the four-month £100,000 project. Trial runs are being held over the next week. Staff are being trained in how to use the

chairlift before it is opened over the August Bank Holiday.

Bosses say they have been inundated in recent months with visitors asking when they will be able to ride it again.

Families will get panoramic views of the borough from the top of Castle Hill before gliding down 125ft on chairs attached to a cable.

The lift has returned to its original cream colour following the removal of 16 layers of paint and a roof has also been built on the shed at the start of the lift.



The chairlift is back

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## NEWS

## Set for charity kick-off



Councillor Judy Foster, Mayor Melvyn Mottram and Councillor Pete Lowe ready for the charity match

SIGNED football memorabilia and Premier League tickets will be up for grabs at a charity match to bring in funds for three good causes in the Black Country.

Wolves, West Bromwich Albion, Aston Villa and Birmingham City have backed the game, organised by Dudley Council, which will be held on August 28.

Stourbridge's Redhill School has made the pitch available free of charge for the game and sports shop Soccer Kings, Ambleside, has supplied trophies.

All cash raised from the event, which runs from 6pm to 8pm, will go to Diabetes UK Stourbridge, Dudley and District Support Group and Dudley Stroke Association, which are those being supported by Dudley's Mayor Councillor Melvyn Mottram during his year in office.

Tickets to matches and signed football goodies will be available through an auction and raffle. The evening will also feature fun football activities from West Bromwich Albion's community programme, The Albion Foundation.

# Police chase after man with axe ran from house

A MAN carrying an axe climbed over his garden fence pursued by police officers after they were called to a disturbance at his Halesowen home, a court heard.

Brett Moore was chased by officers on foot for a short time before they caught up with him, Dudley Magistrates Court was told last week.

He immediately dropped the axe he was carrying and he was searched by police officers who then discovered nunchucks, a Wii game accessory.

The court heard officers had been called to reports of a disturbance at Moore's address in The Longcroft, on June 30.

They were then told he had left the property and was carrying an axe.

Police started to search for him but he returned home.

By Lee Watton

They found him in the garden and upon seeing the officers he climbed the fence and fled.

Moore, aged 48, pleaded guilty to possessing an offensive weapon in a public place and possessing a sharp pointed article in a public place at a previous hearing.

District Judge Michael Wheeler ordered him to carry out 150 hours unpaid work and placed him under a community order with supervision for 12 months.

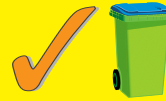
Mr Mark Cooper, prosecuting, said: "He made a full and frank admission to the police."

## Dance your way to fitness

PEOPLE can try out Bokwa, a new dance-based fitness class, at taster sessions running at Stourbridge's Crystal Leisure Centre. It combines a mix of kick boxing and traditional South African war dance to African, Latin and dance music. The Dudley Council centre will be running one-hour taster sessions on August 24 to 31 from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. The two taster sessions are free for centre members and £2.50 for non members.

## Bank Holiday Collections

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## MEMORY LANE



Janina's sister Helena



Janina with her husband Marian whom she met in this country



Janina around the age of 18



Janina's brother Wladek



Janina as a PoW with brother Wladek at the front

## War camp survivor wins medal seven decades on

**A GREAT Wyrley woman has received the Siberian Cross from the Polish Government for her time in a repatriation camp.**

Janina Chmielewska was one of many Polish people dragged from their homes and moved to Siberia in April 1940. She was removed from the country at the age of 15 along with her 11-year-old sister Helena and 13-year-old brother Wladek. The youngster was then put to backbreaking farming work and laying railway track.

"The time there was terrible," recalled Janina, now 88, of Jacobs Hall Lane. "They kept us sometimes without food for two or three days. A lot of old people died on their way there. We had to work in places they put us in."

Her son Edward, from Walsall, is 59 and a history teacher at Wolverhampton's Heath Park Business & Enterprise College. He said: "My mother was at home and suddenly the Russian troops knocked on the door."

**by Richard Woodall**

"She was given a couple of hours notice and just told by them to 'pack your things'. My mother would probably have been one of the oldest."

Upon leaving, he said, his mother took many layers of clothing with her in order to barter with when in Siberia. "It had just been her birthday, and these were new clothes," he said.

"Her particular village, Zablocie, was on the eastern side of Poland. They were all rounded up, not knowing what was happening and yet probably expecting the worst. She was responsible for her younger brother and sister."

The journey was one of the hardest chapters for Mrs Chmielewska and her

siblings. They were driven for mile after mile in cattle trucks in poor conditions and crowded spaces.

"The journey itself was horrendous. It was hot and unpleasant. They only had one small area for a toilet."

"People died in there. When they did stop, they were just hoping people would give them water."

When she arrived at the camp, she was left to fend for herself.

In June 1941 the farm workers were moved again, hundreds of miles away to lay 36 kilometres of railway line. They were made to work until, as prisoners of war, they were later released two months later.

Mr Chmielewska added: "My mother met my father, Marian, in Britain. Dad was a pilot and mum a wireless operator. I am very proud of my mother receiving it. It's important to recognise people's suffering."



Janina Chmielewska and her son Edward



Janina with her Siberian Cross medal

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## NEWS

# Council worker jailed for £19k payroll fraud

## Keep on running for Rotary



Rotarian Barry Wheeler, with front from left, rotarians David Matty, Steve Jones, leisure centre manager Simon Cotterill and Alan Boulder, with leisure centre staff

ORGANISERS of a new road fun run are appealing for people to take part as they aim to raise thousands of pounds for good causes.

They hope up to 500 runners will join the 5km event on September 16 through Halesowen's streets.

Halesowen and Rowley Regis Rotary Club is calling on residents and businesses to back the event.

Cash will go to Birmingham Children's Hospital, the Midlands Air Ambulance and Macmillan Cancer

Support. Rotarian and organiser Alan Bowler said: "We want to get as many people as possible on board to raise as much money as we can for these charities."

"It is always difficult starting something like this from scratch but we really want it to be a success and become an annual event."

People can sign up at [www.halesowenrotaryfunrun.org](http://www.halesowenrotaryfunrun.org) where there are also details for business sponsorship.

A NEWLY-APPOINTED council worker who diverted a chief executive's salary into his girlfriend's account within a day of starting his job has been jailed for 14 months.

Law graduate Stuart Southwick, of Blackberry Lane, Halesowen, also sent a retiring colleague's final salary payment into the same account, a court heard.

He blew the £19,000 on a second-hand Porsche, trips to London, clothes, drink, and a new computer and television.

Warwick Crown Court heard how he began working for Solihull Council having got the job through an agency.

Mr Andrew Tucker, prosecuting, said the 26-year-old was working in the payroll department where he could gain personal details, including their banking details.

Those included community housing chief executive Steve Boyd and a female council employee who was due to retire and to receive a large final payment.

He changed their account details and, as a result, Mr Boyd's £6,035 salary and the woman's final salary payment of £13,688 were not paid into their bank account on May 15, but into Southwick's girlfriend Samantha Mason's account.

His fraud came to light because discrepancies with the woman's bank details were spotted. Inquiries showed the payment had been made into Miss Mason's account and most had been withdrawn by her the same day, Mr Tucker said. Recorder Richard Bond said Southwick, had duped her.

Mr Trevor Meegan, defending, said Southwick, who admitted fraud, did not have his own bank account because he had run up a large overdraft.

## Motorbike set on fire

ARSONISTS targeted a motorbike in Halesowen. The bike was left on grass on Stourdell Road last week when it was set alight at around 1am.

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## NEWS

# £2.1m arts centre is set for its official unveiling

A £2.1 million arts centre which has been built on the site of a former glass factory in Stourbridge was being unveiled.

The old glasshouse, which was part of Royal Doulton, Amblecote has been transformed into a venue for training, arts exhibitions and performances.

An auditorium for 400 people has been built and its Lehr theatre has been revamped. The official opening coincides with the start of the International Festival of Glass the following day.

The Glasshouse Arts Centre shares the same site as the Ruskin Glass Centre and has been funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Arts Council. It's hoped the centre will also provide training and apprenticeship opportunities for future glassmakers.

Aonghus Gordon, director of Ruskin Mill Trust, which is behind the development, was due to give a talk on the project and guests were to be given a tour of the site.

The glasshouse's insulation has also been improved to ensure the building can be used all year round. It is the second phase of the Glasshouse Redevelopment Project. The first saw some of the old factory buildings to create the Ruskin Glass Centre.

The work cost £1.5m and was completed around three years ago with funding from Advantage West Midlands.

It is home to 14 small businesses and has been visited by thousands of people since it opened. Plans are being drawn up for the third and final phase of the project.

## All-round festival view

A 360 degree cinema is being installed at Ruskin Glass Centre as part of the International Festival of Glass. Blowing the Boundaries is a 16ft dome at Ruskin Glass Centre from August 24 to 27. Visitors can walk in and view a range of projections, live streamed activities and international link ups which will all be beamed onto the wall. The dome will provide centre stage for a series of special events.

## Prime spot for glass



Assistant Jackie Dymock with pieces from the Number Ten Collection

ASTUNNING collection of engraved glassware designed for the Prime Minister and guests at Downing Street has gone on display at Wordsley's Red House Glass Cone.

The Number Ten Collection of 42 pieces including tumblers and carafes will be handed over to be used at official functions in October.

Created by the Guild of Glass

Engravers, the collection features different elements of Britain's architectural heritage engraved onto the glass. The Red House Glass Cone is one of the landmarks included in a piece by engraver Sandra Snaddon.

The collection is part of a wider exhibition called 21st Century Engraved Glass which runs until October 7. Entry is free.

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## NEWS

## Swimming time for youngsters at centre

STOURBRIDGE'S Crystal Leisure Centre is running 30-minute sessions for children aged four months to four years every Wednesday and Thursday at 2pm and 2.30pm during the school holiday.

The sessions, which include tuition from qualified instructors, help parents introduce their children to water in a fun and relaxed way. Sessions cost £4.60 per child and run weekly until August 30. Councillor Tracy Wood said: "Swimming is fantastic exercise as well as being great fun."

"The swimming courses are always very popular." For more information or to book a place, call 01384 812800 or visit [www.dudley.gov.uk/sport](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/sport)

## Peppa hogging the limelight for charity



Bowling staff members Nathan Westwood and Chelsea Pearson with Peppa Pig

CHILDREN'S TV favourite Peppa Pig delighted youngsters during a visit, which helped raise hundreds of pounds for youngsters.

Visitors poured in for the annual family fun day at a Sedgley charity's headquarters, where the character was the main attraction. The Beacon Centre for the Blind hosted the event and children were able to have their photographs taken with Peppa.

They were also able to have their faces painted, play bowls and buy from stalls.

## Firm is proud to light games

A FIRM helped light up the Olympics after supplying new hi-tech LED lighting for a London 2012 venue.

PLM of Kidderminster took on the £100,000 "Roof Walk" project at London's O2 Arena, known as the North Greenwich Arena during the games.

The firm has used its new UniLED system, which bosses claim is more durable.

It was developed at its base on the Hoo Farm Industrial Estate.

Bosses originally intended the lights to be sold for gardens and picnic areas but were asked to take on this larger-scale project by games organisers.

The viewing platform and walkway on top of the arena gives visitors panoramic views of the city.

Climbers will be provided with "roof suits" and harnesses as they climb to the top. At The O2's apex, 53m above ground level, there is a

12m diameter viewing platform. The walkway extends to the north side for climbers to descend to the ground.

The firm supplied and fitted 76 cube lights and 86 handrail lights, along with some lights for inside the building.

PLM managing director Phil Martin, who started the business 15 years ago, said: "We were thrilled to get the call to confirm the Millennium project."

"It's a real boost for the company that our projects have caught the attention of both national and international designers, meaning we are getting recognition in both the UK and world wide as lighting experts with options to work on some amazing forthcoming projects."

The firm, which has 15 staff, designed UniLED seven years ago as a simple plug-in system for outdoor lighting.

## Legal high dangers alert

HEALTH chiefs in Worcestershire are warning about the dangers of "legal highs".

The drug and alcohol action team at Worcestershire County Council says use of the substances, which have been chemically altered to get around existing drug laws, is increasing among young people.

Debbie Herbert, the team's programme leader for young people, said: "These substances are freely available in the form of powders, tablets, liquids and herbal preparations."



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## CLUB NEWS

### Pounding bounds in fundraiser

#### KIDDERMINSTER SOROPTIMISTS

AS the club takes a break in August, recent activities have shown the enthusiasm, interest and support for the local community.

Several members raised £100 for the West Midlands Air Ambulance when they 'Pounded the Bounds' in the annual walk around Rock Parish in May.

The club is also supporting the newly-formed Kidderminster Food Bank based at Baxter Church. Since opening, it has helped a number of needy families.

Members continue to donate much-needed toiletries for Nightstop, which provides emergency accommodation and support for young people aged 16 to 25.

Violence Against Women - Stop It Now! campaign also continues.

During a three-day weekend in May, the club welcomed members from its Friendship Link Club SI Heidelberg, Doris, Margaret and Cornelia and friends.

Activities were co-ordinated by Elke Jury and included taking in the sights around Bewdley, Bridgnorth, Cleve Hills, Cleobury, Ironbridge, Kinver, Ludlow, Much Wenlock, Stourport and Worcester before they departed following a tour of Birmingham city centre. The visitors made a generous donation to charity funds as a thank you.

For more details regarding the activities and membership, call Elke Jury 01299 266101 or email on [kidderminstersorop@gmail.com](mailto:kidderminstersorop@gmail.com) or look at [www.sigbi.org](http://www.sigbi.org)

## Jubilee quiz ends an enjoyable afternoon



Townswomen Guild members have a promotional stand at Morrisons in Aldridge

MEMBERS dressed in red, white and blue for a Jubilee celebration with a street party theme. Music from the 1950s was played. A Jubilee quiz ended an enjoyable afternoon.

Social events are still going strong, the Luncheon Group had 12 members enjoying their lunch at The Whitehouse, Walsall.

A trip to Hereford countryside, Cotswolds towns and villages was a great success. The Black Country Living Museum in September is selling well and a visit to the Organ Chase Cinema, Cannock has been booked for

#### ALDRIDGE TG

November. A Christmas meal has also been booked for The Terrace Restaurant.

July's speaker was Audrey Hall talking about 'Taking Shirley Valentine to Greece'.

Also in July, committee members took a stand in the foyer of Morrisons supermarket, Aldridge to promote the Guild. The next meeting is on September 24 from 2pm at Aldridge Community Centre. Molly Murray will talk about 'The Little Black Dress'.

## Putting on The Ritz to celebrate

#### SHEFFIELD AFTERNOON TOWNSWOMEN

SHEFFIELD Afternoon Townswomen's Guild is going from strength to strength. Although a fairly new club, members are thoroughly enjoying themselves.

The club recently visited Chatsworth House, had a fabulous 'The Ritz' garden party to celebrate the Jubilee, and will visit Powis

Castle in September. The guild has varied and interesting speakers each month, and enjoy easy quizzes and fun games. There is also a monthly walking group

which always end with lunch.

Thirteen members attended the AGM in Birmingham at had a great time.

For anyone wishing to go along, meetings are on the second Thursday of each month from 2-4pm at Sheffield Methodist Church, Lichfield Road.



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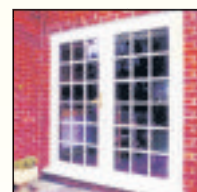
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# Make college first stop in your search for excellence



Principal Lynette Cutting and Joe Robinson, Student of the Year with other successes



It's not too late to start building a future in construction

NOW that GCSE results have come in, school leavers will be keen to secure their place at the region's best performing Further Education college. Enrolment for 16-18 year olds on full time courses starts at Stourbridge College TODAY – time to consider the next step in your search for excellence.

From September 2012 Stourbridge College is enhancing its courses for school leavers by creating Centres of Excellence in areas where we offer outstanding teaching and learning.

All Centres will be supported by strong employer links and will provide a package of education, training and support for students which they will be unable to get anywhere else – making Stourbridge College the first choice for education.

## Links

Lynette Cutting, principal and chief executive, said: "We are building upon areas of outstanding curriculum and enhancing these courses with a range of employer links, work experience and employability qualifications – some areas will benefit from trade discounts and unique links with universities – in order to ensure that students are well prepared for the world of work or moving on to university or higher education."

Our Centre of Sporting Excellence kicks off in September with academies in football, boxing, golf, rugby and equine as well as Centres of Excellence in Construction & Building Services, Creative Industries, Foundation Learning and Care, Early Years and Public Services.

Full details about the enrolment process are on the college's website along with some frequently asked questions to prepare you for what you need to do when you come along to enrol.

Remember, all enrolments are taking place at the Hagley Road Centre – even if

## 'We can help fix your future'

you've chosen to study a course at the Advanced Technology Centre or the Art and Design Centre in Brierley Hill. Enrolment starts at the Hagley Road Centre on Thursday 23rd August until Friday August 31 2012.

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Our Advanced Technology Centre based in Brierley Hill offers a range of Construction Trades and Built Environment courses that will put down the foundations for a range of careers and it's not too late to apply!

Or if you haven't decided yet we can offer general advice and guidance.

## Facebook

The next step in your search for excellence could be more practical and you might want to choose to do an apprenticeship which will prepare you for work rather than university. We're looking forward to welcoming you to Stourbridge College, but in the meantime 'Like' us on Facebook and we'll keep you up to date with college events. Check out the website: [www.stourbridge.ac.uk](http://www.stourbridge.ac.uk) or call us on 01384 344400 for more information.



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## Support for sport awarded

BLACK Country businesses that have spurred on sporting success in the area are to get their own awards.

Nominations are being sought for the Black Country Sport and Physical Activity Awards.

And one of the 16 categories is Business Contribution to Sport.

Firms that have shown initiative by promoting sport, or businesses that have sponsored events or clubs can all be recognised.

Business leaders at the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) are encouraging firms in the region to get involved.

Ninder Johal, spokesman for the Black Country LEP, said: "London 2012 certainly caught the imagination of the country and the sports awards provide a perfect opportunity to continue this momentum."

Nominations will close on September 14 and the awards ceremony will be held on November 9.

See [www.the-blackcountry.com/beactive/](http://www.the-blackcountry.com/beactive/) contact joanne.taylor@blackcountryconsortium.co.uk or calling 01384 471139 for further information.

## Love a duck day

HUNDREDS of ducks floated down the River Severn in the St Richard's Hospice annual duck race.

Onlookers watched as small, large and fancy dress ducks raced downstream and raised £650.

# Six years in jail for man who fired shotgun to cause fear

**A MAN who admitted pulling out a pistol and firing it into the air to frighten a man in a Dudley high street has been jailed for six years.**

Curtis Christie was seen getting out of a Renault Megane and pulling a pistol from his waistband before firing it. Residents called the police who arrived at the scene within minutes. Christie, 23, of Wolseley Road, West Bromwich, was arrested the same day after being stopped in a Fiat Punto, in Tiled House Lane, Dudley.

A cartridge found in Pensnett High Street after the incident in December 2010 was analysed and matching residue was found on his top, gloves and jeans, the court was told.

Also in the Fiat Punto was Tim Musumbu, of Henley Close, Tipton, who was found to have a knife in his jacket.

The court was told there was no evidence to suggest Musumbu had been present in the Megane when the gun was discharged.

**Picture**

The 21-year-old, who admitted possession of a bladed article, was sentenced to a 12-month community order and ordered to carry out 180 hours unpaid work.

Christie admitted possession of a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence at an earlier hearing.

Mr Stefan Kolodyski, prosecuting, said the roots of the case stemmed from when the victim had posted a picture of himself on Facebook surrounded by cash.

"It received a number of comments some of them taking it as joke and others not," he said.

"On December 1 he received a phone call and the meeting in Pensnett High Street was arranged."

Mr Gary Wood, defending, said his client had believed the pistol contained blanks and had fired into the air only to frighten the victim.

## Rocky road led to path of love



Horace and Doris Thomas celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary

DIAMOND couple Horace and Doris Thomas started off on a rocky road when they first met while out riding their bikes as teenagers.

Soon after they began courting Doris told how they had a falling out. But Horace, who came from Grange Road, Blackheath, persevered to win Doris back over, and now they have been married for 60 years.

"I fell for her then, and I still love her now," said 80-year-old Horace, a retired car worker at Rover's Longbridge plant.

The couple, of Timbertree Crescent, Cradley Heath, who married at St Peter's Church, Cradley, have a daughter, Hazel Chatterton, aged 57, of Moorville Road, Netherton, two grandchildren and a great grandchild.

Their second great grandchild is due to be born next month.

Doris, whose 80th birthday was on Tuesday, two days before their diamond celebration, used to work as a cleaner.

## NEWS

### in brief

#### Fossils fuel fun at county museum

VISITORS to Worcester-shire County Museum can learn all about rocks, fossils and dinosaurs on Monday.

The attraction at Hartlebury near Kidderminster will be holding its Let's Rock event from 11am until 5pm.

Craft fun includes creating a Silurian seascape or Carboniferous swamp-scape through colouring and collage, making a trilobite mask and designing a badge. They can also touch the bones of a woolly mammoth.

#### MP urges action on rising bill peril

DUDLEY North MP Ian Austin has written to the Chancellor urging action to cut bills after local people told him the rising cost of living is pushing family budgets to "breaking point". Mr Austin recently carried out a constituency study.

He says almost half of those who replied told him they had stopped saving, put off buying big items for the house and were planning to spend less at Christmas.

#### Inquest opened

AN INQUEST was adjourned on motorcyclist Kieran O'Sullivan, 21, of Linden Avenue, Stourport, who lost control of his bike near the Brinton Arms pub, in Bewdley Road, at 6.40pm last Wednesday.

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## NEWS

## Firm aims for growth



Evergreen Coaches director Ravi Soomal with drivers Sanu Kapur, left, and Mario Trzesowski, at the company's base in Alma Street, Smethwick

THE director of a Sandwell coach company has unveiled a list of holiday destinations she wants to offer customers in the wake of the firm's expansion plans.

Evergreen Coaches, in Alma Street, Smethwick, has hosted a recruitment drive to take on 10 new drivers, and the boss of the firm, Ravi Soomal, says she has ambitions to provide trips to Belgium and Italy, which will create several more jobs.

The 30-year-old business owner said: "Since we took it over, we have made better links with local businesses and schools and private clients to build up a strong customer base, so now we have the capacity to increase and expand."

"We do some European trips already, but working with a tour operator, but we will be looking to organise the whole experience from beginning to end, so we will also be looking to get a tour manager appointed."

# Thug pulls gold chain from neck of woman

**AN elderly woman was attacked in the street in Tipton and her chain was torn from her neck, police have revealed.**

It was one of two reported robberies which happened in the Sandwell area in recent days.

The theft happened when the woman was followed by a man as she got off a bus in Dudley Port.

The attacker pulled the woman to the ground and snatched her gold chain from her neck.

The police managed to track down the thief after he was seen trying to dump his jacket which it is believed contained the victim's necklace, and was arrested.

## Stolen

The man, aged 25, has been charged with robbery. He has been remanded in custody and will be committed to crown court for trial at a later date.

The police then made a second arrest after a man had his mobile phone stolen in Victoria Park, Tipton.

Investigating officers worked closely with the local community to identify the robber and as a result a 19

year-old man was arrested the following day. Officers were able to return the phone to its owner.

A teenager was charged with robbery and has been bailed to attend Warley Magistrates' Court on August 28.

Police say that despite these two incidents, Sandwell has seen a reduction in robbery through June and July this year.

In June there were 84 fewer victims and in July, 39 fewer victims compared to 2011, they say.

Police are running a campaign urging residents to be keep valuables hidden in a bid to tackle the number of robberies in the borough.

by Tim Spiers

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## Pub shut after raid by police

FIVE people have been arrested and bags of cannabis and cocaine seized following a raid on a pub in the heart of West Bromwich.

More than 40 police descended on the Star and Garter, High Street.

The raid, which involved specialist officers from the force's Gangs and Organised Crime Unit, came as a result of information from the public about anti-social behaviour and suspected drug dealing on the premises. Officers detained around 40 people inside the pub.

A total of five arrests were made during the operation. A 50-year-old man, from Oldbury, was arrested for possession of cocaine with intent to supply. He has been bailed until next month. A 51-year-old man, from West Bromwich, was arrested for possession of cocaine and received a caution.

Two men, aged 28 and 32 were arrested for possession of cannabis. The 32-year-old was given a fixed penalty while the 28-year-old remained in custody today.

Police confirmed the pub had been shut pending a review which would be considered by the licensing team on Monday.

## Swim sessions

STOUREBRIDGE'S Crystal Leisure Centre is running 30-minute swim sessions on Wednesdays and Thursdays for children aged four months to four years at 2 and 2.30pm until August 30.

# Three caught trying to steal ton of copper from buildings

**THREE men ripped out a ton of copper piping worth more than £3,000 from disused college buildings about to be replaced by a housing estate and loaded it into a car, a court heard.**

They all admitted targeting the Dudley College Castle View campus, which was formerly used by Wolverhampton University. The site is being sold off to Bellway Homes, which will replace outdated teaching buildings and workshops with 80 properties, including 21 low-cost homes. Police were called at about 4am on June 21 and caught the three.

## Man attacked estranged wife

A DUDLEY man pulled and twisted his estranged wife's hair and slapped her twice, a court heard.

Jason Tinsley, aged 41, of St Andrews Street, Netherton, admitted assaulting Jacqueline Tinsley on August 1. Dudley magistrates adjourned sentencing until September 13 for reports.

He was allowed bail on condition he keeps away from his wife's home in Kilburn Place, Netherton.

Mr Mark Cooper, prosecuting, said Tinsley's six-year relationship with his wife ended in separation in February, when he moved out. On August 1 he went to her home and was drinking with family members. Later he went outside, smoked cannabis and drank more alcohol and his mood changed.

His wife asked him to leave but he refused and, as she went to call her mother, he snatched the phone from her.

He then pulled and twisted her hair around and slapped her twice, added Mr Cooper.

Mr Suresh Joshi, defending, said it was a "one-off" incident and that Tinsley did not recall what had happened.

Alfie Best and Mark O'Connor, both aged 18 and David Price, 38, were loading pipes of all sizes into a yellow Renault Megane after handing them over a fence.

Mrs Jayne Yeomans, prosecuting, said: "When police arrived the three defendants were in the vehicle. When it was searched they found large copper pipes.

"Some had been loaded into the boot and some was stacked below the seats in the car."

A holdall bag full of piping and a hacksaw was also discovered, she said. Police said the metal was estimated to weigh one ton and was worth £3,800, the court heard.

Best, of Holcott Road, Northampton, was ordered by Dudley Magistrates to do 60 hours unpaid work while O'Connor, of Jays Avenue, Tipton, must complete 100 hours.

### Report

Both were ordered to pay £85 costs each. The sentencing of Price, of Tudor Court, Dudley Port, was adjourned for a report to be prepared by the probation service. All admitted theft.

Mrs Helen Penning, defending, said O'Connor, an unemployed window fitter, had co-operated with police after his arrest.

And she said father-of-two Price, who has worked as a paint sprayer, told officers the buildings were in a "dreadful" state and that he knew there were plans to build houses there.

Defending Best, Mr Andrew Wakeman said his client was acting as a lookout and had never been in trouble before.

## Revenge at core of comedy



Members of the Community Players Peter May, left, Becky Randle, Diane Hardwick, Tracy Riley and Thelma Harper preparing for their production

A DARK comedy following the lives of three women following the death of their friend is being staged by a drama group.

The Community Players will perform Caramba's Revenge at the Oakfield Centre in Brettell Lane, Brierley Hill, from September 5 to 8.

All shows will begin at 7.30pm with tickets priced £6 or £5 for children and pensioners.

Rehearsals have been taking place for the past three months and members of the group said they were looking forward to bringing the play to the stage.

It tells the story of four women who have been living together in a co-operative pooling their pension books and sharing chores.

But, after a mugging, one of them dies and the other three "forget" to tell the authorities.

However the woman's granddaughter soon arrives from Australia in search of her relative and the trio also have to fend off the suspicious Inspector Grubb.

The cast is hoping for support from residents.

## NEWS

### in brief

#### Glass feat could blow fans' minds

TWO Black Country craftsmen are gearing up for a battle to stage the world's longest glass blowing demonstration.

The 24-hour public event, starting on Sunday at 11am, will see Allister Malcolm compete against Elliot Walker - and both are now appealing for sponsorship.

The challenge will be part of the International Festival of Glass, being held in Stourbridge from August 24 to 27 to celebrate 400 years of glass-making.

#### Book launch is part of festival

A WRITER, glass expert and broadcaster will launch his latest book as part of the International Festival of Glass in Stourbridge.

And Mr Fisher's account of the historic glassmaking endeavor, entitled The 2012 Portland Vase Project: Recreation of a Masterpiece, will be launched at 10.30am on Friday at Amblecote's Ruskin Glass Centre. Priced £12.50 it will be available at the launch and direct from Sparrow Publishing.

#### Plea for furniture

A CHARITY shop in Kidderminster is appealing for furniture to be donated. The Salvation Army store is asking for portable items such as side tables and stools.

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01384 830370

**Halesowen**  
Halesbury School,  
Feldon Lane,  
7.30pm  
Tel: Dawn  
07859 010175

**Lye**  
Salvation Army  
55 High Street,  
7.30pm  
Tel: Jayne  
07530 217240  
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**TUESDAY**

**\*New Session\*  
Hasbury**  
Christian Fellowship  
26 Albert Road  
9.30am & 11.30am  
Tel: Michaela  
0121 602 3267

**Halesowen**  
\*New Times from  
21<sup>st</sup> August\*  
Lutley Community  
Centre,  
Brook Willow Road,  
5.30pm & 7.30pm  
Tel: Michaela  
0121 602 3267

**Rowley Regis**  
Learning Campus,  
Curral Road,  
7.30pm  
Tel: Kenton  
07982 408088

**WEDNESDAY**

**Blackheath**  
Central Methodist  
Church, High Street,  
10.00am, 4.00pm  
& 6.00pm  
Tel: Ann  
0121 422 3296

**Old Hill**  
\*New Times from  
29<sup>th</sup> August\*  
Holy Trinity Church,  
Halesowen Road,  
5.30pm & 7.30pm  
Tel: Jill  
01384 562102

**Tivdale**  
St Michaels Church,  
Tivdale Road  
7.00pm  
Tel: Kenton  
07982 408088

**THURSDAY**

**Cradley Heath**  
\*New Times from  
6<sup>th</sup> Sept\*

**Halesowen**  
Townsend Social  
Club, Stourbridge  
Road, 5.30pm  
Tel: Lorraine  
01384 830370

**Halesowen**  
\*New Times from  
6<sup>th</sup> Sept\*

**Cradley**  
Nether End  
Neighbourhood  
Centre,  
Mogul Lane,  
5.30pm & 7.00pm  
Tel: Amanda  
07862 274058

**FRIDAY**

**Halesowen**  
Members Club,  
Hagley Road,  
10.00am  
Tel: Jill  
01384 562102

**SATURDAY**

**Cradley**  
Nether End  
Neighbourhood  
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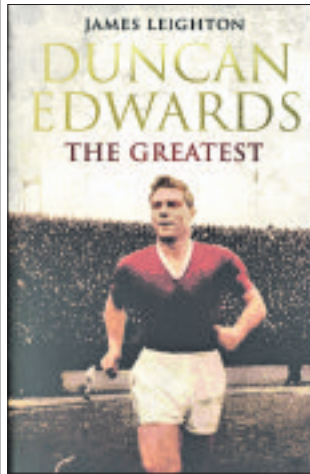
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**BOOKS**

Cover of 'Duncan Edwards The Greatest'

**Dudley's finest would have lived up to billing**

**Duncan Edwards, The Greatest by James Leighton, £18.99**

IT doesn't take a Manchester United supporter to appreciate the enormity – and the tragedy of the 1958 Munich air disaster.

The Busby Babes would have dominated the country and possibly European competition for years to come. But the lives of so many players were lost in their prime, among them Dudley's finest Duncan Edwards.

An England player at the age of just 17, his country's youngest post-war international, many believe Edwards would have lived up to 'The Greatest' tag. By the time he lost his fight for life at 21, he had already earned 18 England caps, had won the League title with United and was head over heels with the love of his life Molly Leach.

Leighton's research is extensive and laudable, taking a chronologi-

cal look at Edwards' life and career, through to that devastating crash and his ensuing battle for survival. It also looks at life after Edwards and what might have been.

Family members and team-mates are interviewed, including fellow ex-district player and Babe Gordon Clayton, of Cannock.

There is the heartbreaking loss of his sister Carol Anne, his lesser-known dancing ability, his father Gladstone's desire for him to play for Wolves and turning down the chance to join his cousin Ray Stevens at Bolton.

Throughout it all is the tale of a gentle giant who just loved to play football. Even when conscripted to National Service, there was just one thing that Army number 234145376 wanted to do. And when Sir Bobby Charlton says Big Duncan made him feel inferior, you really know he was something special.

**Riveting read on sports evolution**

**Can We Have Our Balls Back Please? Julian Norridge, £9.99**

THE subtitle to this work by Julian Norridge is 'How the British invented sport (and then almost forgot how to play it)' and there is no doubt that the author has a point.

From the origins of the likes of boxing, rugby, football, horse racing and golf, Norridge describes how the sports derived, how they were adapted and the formation of the rules and governing bodies.

But he argues that although these pastimes played – and still play – a leading role in the national psyche, the rest of the world has since put their own stamp on the sports that originated on these shores.

A map of the country shows the birthplace in Upton, Buckinghamshire, of Sir Neville Chamberlain, who invented the game of snooker, apparently, and of Fullerton in Wiltshire, where Northanger Abbey heroine Catherine Moorland first played baseball – years before the

Americans claimed to have invented it.

Badminton in Gloucestershire marks the spot where the racket game was first played, or at least renamed, while in Bury, the dartsboard was reputedly invented.

Among the other nuggets are that cricket was first played in Guildford, Surrey on a site where a furniture store now stands, managed by the father of the current England wicket-keeper Matt Prior.

Even the modern Olympic Games were founded in Much Wenlock, Shropshire. And, did you know James I's big contribution to the world of horse racing? He discovered Newmarket.

It's a riveting read for all sports fans. But there is one gripe, that a book written from a British perspective should contain so many words like characterized and recognized with an American 'z' and not an 's'.

**Mark Shipp**



Can We Have Our Balls Back, Please?

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**Rail inclusive breaks**

Departures most weekends

**FROM £139.95**

Catch the Theatre Express and enjoy a super two-day weekend break in the capital. There's a choice of London hotels and your ticket is for a Saturday evening performance. Rail travel is standard class with the option to upgrade. Depart Saturday morning/early afternoon from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton, returning on the Sunday afternoon/early evening to give plenty of free time for shopping and sightseeing. Stay the Friday evening too for an additional cost.

**Self-drive breaks**

Departures most weekends

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\* The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details. Single room supplements apply.

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## College team wins award

DUDLEY College's international team is celebrating after securing a prestigious award for its wide-reaching work across the globe.

It was recently recognised by the business community at the Midlands Insider International Trade Awards.

Dudley College was nominated for the Education category because of its work in supporting, building and helping to deliver vocational skills throughout the Middle East and other countries.

The overseas work has involved members of the college's senior management team, including Principal Lowell Williams, delivering leadership and management training to education professionals in Saudi Arabia.

## Drain covers thief is jailed for 'putting the public in danger'

**A MAN has been jailed after magistrates told him that he had put members of the public in danger by stealing drain covers.**

Mark Bilsby admitted stealing three drain covers in Lowndes Road, Stourbridge. The 48 year old, of Trinity Road, Amblescote, was jailed for four weeks. Presiding magistrate Mrs Dawn Gill told him: "There is a prevalence of theft of metal in this community and this raises concerns for public safety."

She added that previous non-custodial sentences against Bilsby - who had 50 previous con-

victions involving over 100 offences - had failed to deter him from committing crime.

She said the magistrates had taken his record into account before deciding to jail him. A co-defendant, 72-year-old Ivan Allen, of Avenue Road, Blackheath, was at an earlier hearing given a 12-month conditional discharge and ordered to pay £85 costs.

Allen had also admitted stealing the drain covers.

Mr Mark Cooper, prosecuting, said police were called after two men were seen taking the covers from drains. Police found Bilsby and Allen on wasteland off Lowndes Road, with one of the

drain covers on the trailer of Allen's van. Bilsby told police they had gone to the wasteland because he knew there were some old televisions there and he had intended to take them to a scrap dealer.

They claimed they found the drain covers, which had already been moved off the drains by somebody else.

Mr Cooper added that the police officers retrieved the covers and made the drains safe.

Mr Michael Davies, defending, said Bilsby had a "fearsome" record but had stayed out of trouble for two and a half years, which he described as a "feat in itself."

## Cadets pull in pounds

SEA CADETS in Dudley showed their strength when they pulled a canal barge for 20 miles through the Black Country - raising £1,000.

The narrowboat was dragged along the waterways network from Dudley Canal Trust in Birmingham New Road to Brindley Place in Birmingham and back again.

The challenge took nine hours with the cadets working in shifts throughout the day. Money raised will go to a new powerboat for safety cover whilst the cadets take part in sailing, canoeing or rowing, along with the winter maintenance programme of their boats.

Organiser Alan Beasley said: "We had had a smashing day out. It was so satisfying seeing the youngsters enjoying themselves."

## Snake man Mark is back after bite



Bitten by a deadly snake, reptile expert, Mark O'Shea

REPTILE expert Mark O'Shea has spoken of being almost poisoned by one of the world's deadliest snakes in a bizarre incident - as he returned to work at West Midland Safari Park less than 24 hours after being bitten.

The snake handler at the Bewdley attraction had been feeding a rat to King Cobra Sleeping Beauty when she sank her fangs into his shoe two days ago.

The bite did not break his skin so he did not realise that the venom had entered his body until he was on stage talking to visitors to the park shortly afterwards when he began to feel his throat seizing up and dizziness.

The 56-year-old said: "I was feeding the King Cobra a rat using forceps, which is the normal procedure, but she missed it. She was then moving around for it and went for the nearest thing which was my foot."

"I took off my shoe and rolled up my sock, which was soaking from the venom, but I could not see a bite mark."

"I then took out a python and went to do the animal encounter presentation on stage. I was talking about anacondas when I started to feel dizzy and was finding it hard to concentrate."

Mr O'Shea, originally from Wolverhampton but now living in Telford, apologised to the audience and left the stage for colleagues to carry out the snake bite procedure.

He was taken to hospital on Sunday afternoon, but required no treatment as the effects of the venom wore off.

"I had been wearing my boots without socks the weekend before and I had rubbed my toes raw. This was how the venom got in," the presenter said.

Paramedics were called to the scene at 4pm on Sunday.

## Order on neighbour who shouted abuse

A MAN shouted abuse at a neighbour, causing his victim to become "paranoid" in his own home, a court heard.

Edward Fitzherbert-Stewart, aged 39, also set fire to a rubbish bin in a separate incident.

Fitzherbert-Stewart, of Clent Court, Vicarage Prospect, Dudley, admitted damaging a pane of glass in a communal door at the Dudley Council-owned flats where he lives, using threatening behaviour and arson.

Dudley magistrates gave him a 12-month supervision order, told him to pay £50 to the victim of his threatening behaviour and ordered him to pay £200 compensation to Dudley Council and £100 costs.

Mr Mark Cooper, prosecuting, said the neighbour was awoken at 2.15am when he heard someone kicking his door on July 21. He opened the door and Fitzherbert-Stewart shouted a homophobic insult at him.

The other offence was committed on July 24.

# CLOSING DOWN SALE

Time is running out

This Bank Holiday Weekend we urgently need to clear all our stock to include:- Suites, Sofas, Recliners, Ortho Chairs, Cane, Dining, Beds and Bedroom Furniture so that we can commence our refurbishment works.

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 <b>Chiltern Small Square</b> Beech Dining Set inc 4 Red Faux Leather Chairs <b>£399</b>	 <b>Urban 1.4 metre</b> Dining Table including 4 Matching Black Leather Chairs <b>£489</b>	 <b>Lyon Cognac</b> Dining 8 Seater <b>£859 1 Only</b>	 <b>LORNA CORNER</b> SOFA BLACK/GREY JUMBO CORD <b>NOW ONLY £389</b>				
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			 <b>Shelbourne 3 Drawer</b> Bedside Beech/ Magnolia High Gloss <b>Now £79 1 Only</b>				

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You can enjoy either a two-day break to the capital or a day excursion.

**Two-day break departing September 22 October 6 and 20 FROM £129.<sup>95</sup>\***

- Return coach travel
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- Cruise on the River Thames
- Free time in London for shopping or sightseeing

\*single rooms are offered at a supplement of £25

**Day excursion departing September 15 FROM £59.<sup>95</sup>**

- Return coach travel
- Flight on the London Eye
- Cruise on the River Thames

Both tours organised by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782)

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## COMPETITION

# Magic! Discover a tasty party treat

THIS magical Mexican food is bound to make any party a success – and throw in a free magician and you are on to a winner.

To celebrate the arrival of Discovery's Perfect Fajita Roadshow, the Chronicle Series is offering one lucky reader the chance to win a magician for their children's party and a hamper filled with great-tasting Mexican products, including the new Perfect Fajita Kit.

Three runners-up will also receive a Discovery hamper!

### Amazed

Get down to Victoria Square, Birmingham (B1 1BB) on Saturday, September 1 and the Sunday between 11am-7pm and indulge in a tasty fajita tailored just the way you like it by the Discovery chefs.

Learn how to create the Perfect Fajita at home and be amazed by Discovery's resident road show magician, Matthew Gammie, with magic that must be seen to be believed.

Discovery's New Perfect Fajita Kit contains everything you need to make a tasty Mexican feast for the

whole family; including tortillas that are so soft they are rolled, which allows the slender kit to slot perfectly into the smallest of store cupboards.

All you need to choose is your favourite filling, add vegetables and top with Discovery's range of tasty separates; including salsa, soured cream, guacamole-style topping and new Green Jalapeño Relish.

Follow the clear on-pack step-by-step recipe suggestion and enjoy – minimum effort, maximum taste.

You can also take part in the Facebook competition – all you need to do is 'Like' the Discovery Facebook page and a 'magic word' will be posted on the Discovery page days before the roadshow in Birmingham.

If you come and see the team and say the 'magic word' to a member of the Discovery team between the relevant times, you will get a free gift.

For more about the roadshow, to share your fajita experience and for product giveaways and recipes, visit: <http://www.facebook.com/discoveryfoods>



The team at the Discovery trailer



### HOW TO ENTER

To be in with a chance of winning, simply answer this question:

**What is the name of Discovery's resident road show magician?**

Send your answer on a postcard with your name, address and contact number to Discovery Competition, Chronicle series (editorial), 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Closing date: Thursday, August 30, 2012.

No cash alternative. Usual rules apply. Editor's decision is final. Entrants must be 18 or over.



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## Fears on road crossing plan

A CAMPAIGN has been launched for a crossing along a busy road – but traders fear it will lead to a loss of parking outside their shops causing business to plummet.

Residents want a crossing to be installed along Park Road, Woodsetton, as many elderly people struggle to get across the busy carriageway.

It has been taken up by Upper Gornal and Woodsetton councillor Keiran Casey who has called on Dudley Council to look into the scheme.

But traders say while a crossing along the road is needed serious thought needs to be put into where it will be installed as a loss of parking outside their shops would impact on business. Tracy Crampton, who runs Tracy's Unisex Hair Salon, said: "A crossing is needed somewhere along the road."

# Proposals for £24m learning campus given the go-ahead

**A £24 MILLION learning campus, which will be built on the same site as two Kidderminster schools, has been given the go-ahead by council planners.**

Under the proposals, a new school would open catering for 220 pupils aged two to 19 with special educational needs.

A new science teaching block, an early years teaching hub and boarding house would also be built on the site of Baxter College and St John's Primary School. The plans were drawn up by Worcestershire County Council education chiefs.

They have been submitted to Wyre Forest District Council. The district council has backed the plans, which aim to bring mainstream and special school pupils together.

A decision notice by director Mike Parker said the authority had no objections to the scheme and it was considered "appropriate in the context of design and siting".

Classrooms and the science laboratories will be shared by the schools while new sports facilities, including a floodlit artificial pitch and multi-use games area, which will be open to the wider community, are also included. St John's Primary would be refurbished and extended as part of the

scheme. The new special school, called Wyre Forest School, will replace the existing Stourminster and Blakebrook Schools in Kidderminster.

The county council's cabinet member for transformation and change, David Thain, said: "The scheme aims to provide sports and educational facilities that will be available for use by the local community."

Staff, parents, pupils and local residents were consulted on the scheme during an event earlier this year. The new school will be built on an area of the site occupied by 10 mobile science classrooms. The council's property services team is working with contractors Speller Metcalfe.

## Boy is used in theft of purse

A MAN with a young boy distracted a shop worker while a woman sneaked into a store and stole her purse containing £160 and credit cards, say police.

The man and child walked into Barbara Clark Design Studio, Worcester Road, Hagley. A woman entered the store through another entrance.

After a short exchange in broken English she left with the man and boy, who is believed to be about six. The staff member then discovered the theft.

The man was in his mid to late 40s, around 5ft 4ins, of large build with short dark hair and had several gold teeth. The woman was of a similar age and height, overweight, was wearing a black headscarf and skirt, and had a tan-coloured handbag. Call Pc Chris Evans on 101 with any details.

## VIP Emily enjoys being pampered



Emily Ireland, aged 15, at the Dove Spa with beauty therapist Jade Marsden

TEENAGER Emily Ireland was treated like a VIP as she enjoyed a pampering session at a Black Country spa.

The 15-year-old spent a relaxing few hours having a facial, manicure and pedicure at Dove Spa at Dudley's Merry Hill Centre.

It was organised by the Wishing Well charity as Emily had spent time on the children's ward at Russells Hall Hospital with a serious chest infection earlier this year.

The pupil at Holly Hall School in Dudley missed school for the first time while being treated at hospital. Her father John said she had wanted to visit a spa for a long time.

"She really enjoyed herself – it was wonderful. Being in hospital was quite traumatic so it is lovely that she's had something so nice to look forward to," he said.

## Tragedy rider is named by police

A MOTORCYCLIST who died after coming off his bike in Stourport has been named by police as Kieran Joseph O'Sullivan.

The 21-year-old, who lived in the town, lost control of the vehicle near to the Brinton Arms pub, Bewdley Road.

He suffered a serious head injury and was confirmed dead at the scene by paramedics. Police said they were still trying to trace the motorcycle Mr O'Sullivan had been riding after it was removed from the scene before officers arrived.

The vehicle is believed to be red and black.

Inspector Julian Smith, of West Mercia Police, said: "We are grateful to those people who have come forward with information but we have still not been able to recover the motorcycle."

"A young man has tragically lost his life in this incident and the police have a duty to provide a full and comprehensive report to the coroner for the inquest which will be held in due course."

"It is possible whoever took it from the scene knew Mr O'Sullivan and intended to return it to him or his family later not realising he had been fatally injured."

"I would repeat our primary focus in finding the bike is so we can complete our investigation into the incident."

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Tall attractive easygoing, likes travel, meals out, cinema, seeks female for friendship, possible relationship. .

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(T&C's below)

**WIDOW** genuine 70's, kind, caring, likes country music, dancing, seeks male, 65-75 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394801

**BLONDE** attractive educated lady 50, young minded, seeks professional tall male, 45-55 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391818

**BIG** bubbly black female, single mum, looking for male for nights in and out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392501

**CHRIS** attractive slim sophisticated redhead, seeking male 30-50's to relax with and get to know. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392401

**SARAH** nice looking blue eyed slim brunette, WLTM similar lonely male for fun times hopefully leading to ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394575

**MADDIE** extremely passionate female 37, seeks reliable male to enjoy the finer things in life and facilitate relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394565

**PAULINE** divorced female on the wrong side of 40 looking for adult fun with easygoing highly driven man if you get my drift? Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394463

**SLIM** male, seeks lady 35-45, size 12-18, GSOH for friendship, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394591

**SARAH** 23, attractive, brunette, slim, looking for male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392979

**KAREN** witty female who loves to laugh, WLTM similar male to share interests, romance, cosy nights in and more. Pls call. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393125

**CARING** lady, 52, brown hair/eyes, seeks male, 30-60 for socialising, meals out, cinema, music, sports and having a laugh. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392883

**FARMER'S** granddaughter, OHAC, stunningly attractive, respectable, sincere, WLTM countryman/bachelor, 48-62, 5ft 9ins plus, genuine, uncomplicated with GSOH and TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387204

**POLLY** dark hair, 50, attractive, outgoing, seeks special outgoing male for days out etc. Telford. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391127

**BLONDE** tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384852

**LOVING** caring young 67yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart male with GSOH, 58-62. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384651

**SUE** 5ft 2ins female, brown hair/eyes, loving, likes music, socialising, films, good times, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393223

**LADY** widow, 58, slim, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks smart, intelligent, easygoing man with GSOH who enjoys conversations, days out, short breaks, meals out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387247

**SALLY** slim attractive feisty redhead, intelligent, easygoing, WLTM similar male for friendship and more, looks unimpaired. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393469

**WIDOW** 70, genuine, kind, caring, laidback, seeking male for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387013

**EASYGOING** down to earth female, likes cooking, exploring new things in life, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386893

**LADY** young 60, outgoing, friendly, smart, likes cinema, shopping, meals out, seeks similar female friends for days out and evenings. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387117

**39YR** old single female, hurt in past, animal lover, likes most things, seeking genuine man for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386987

**CLARE** good looking, beautiful blonde, seeks male for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376209

**LOUISE** 43, 5ft 5ins, medium build, GSOH, kind, caring, honest, genuine, loving, WLTM male, 43-55 with similar qualities for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376185

**MANDY** 36, size 10, looking for relationship with open-minded man. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360317

**ALICIA** 19yr old green eyed female, very attractive, slim, long hair, independent, looking for fun with mature male, no time wasters. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 390059

**ANNA** 29yr old nurse, 6ft curvy auburn beauty, likes cosy nights in, genuinely seeking older, well built male to look after, 40-69yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375139

**SARAH** 38, slim, nice looking, tactile, no ties, WLTM kind, loving male to enjoy affectionate relationship. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378483

**PAULINE** attractive petite nurse, loves evenings in/out, looking for honest male to share loving friendship and good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 379535

**VICKY** honest caring female 33yrs, GSOH, loves meals in/out, travel, cinema, WLTM someone to enjoy nice things in life with and romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 383911

**DENISE** tall leggy good looking single mum, easygoing, enjoys nights in/out, animals, WLTM tall male for fun times possibly more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391873

**SLIM** 32yr old blonde, kind, caring, good listener, honest, likes to have fun, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 339373

**YVONNE** looking for Christian male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391135

**MADELINE** 5ft black seeks male 26-41 with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375789

**IRENE** 55, blonde hair, brown eyes, loving, caring, genuine, N/S, lots of love to give, seeks male, 55-60 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392807

**HELEN** 34yr old single mum slim intelligent, seeks nice male for adult companionship with good potential for a great relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394121

**SUSIE** gorgeously feminine and sensual, loves lazy summer days, misses male companionship WLTM someone with sense of adventure and lust for life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394117

**LOUISE** youthful looking female looking for spontaneous male to put some love and lust back into life. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392491

**HOME** alone with no one to call my own! 38yr old girl looking for fun. Can travel. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 363277

**STACEY** young 20yr old looking for fun. Call me to find out more. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 382091

**JANE** 46, single mum, N/S, romantic, likes dancing, nights out, music, seeking male, 40-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 380591

**CURVY** red haired female, been hurt in the past seeks older male to buy her flowers and mend her broken heart. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 377432

**FUN** loving lady, outgoing, honest, caring, likes socialising, seeks older male, 50-70. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 383325

**NICKY** looking for attractive male 48-55yrs for fun, good times and relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388393

**50YR** old female, seeks male for fun and socialising. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 233580

**KIND** loving lady 43, slight disability, seeks genuine male for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391863

**LONG** haired blonde, 37, enjoys meals out but would love to cook a romantic meal for the man of her dreams. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 361076

**CHLOE** pretty single female 36yrs, dark hair/eyes, slim build, very lonely and looking for fun with mature male, no time wasters. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387057

**TALL** curvy female, 36dd, loves music, looking for fun and romance with dark male. Give me a call. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 359238

**HOLLY** 25, slim, attractive, brunette, likes gym, WLTM nice, sensitive male of similar age for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 380851

**DO** you know what women want? 40yr old petite lady needs spilling and lots of love by attractive male, 45-55. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 327573

**LAURA** 36, seeks male for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384171

**LADY** 70's, seeks gent of similar age for friendship, days out and holidays. Dudley area. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 361043

**BUBBLY** female, 42, young at heart, honest, caring, likes outdoors, cinema, theatre, meals out, seeks like minded male/soul mate, 40-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 357919

**42YR** old Sagittarian 5'7ins, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks genuine, caring guy interested in films, meals out, country walks, gardening and travel, 45-55. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 358398

**JESSIE** single mum 24 looking for her Mr Right for equally respectful relationship, hopefully blossoming into love. Single dads welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 382087

**JOY** 36 petite medium build, blue eyes, loves romantic walks, meals in/out, WLTM male 30-45 for meets. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386629

**LYNN** 37 single mum, petite slim and very pretty, seeking caring funny guy to be with and become my Mr Wonderful. Dads welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386633

**MORAG** 21yr old attractive dark haired student nurse, new to area and very lonely seeks mature male for mutual companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391087

**JENNY** blue eyed cuddly independent female, loves countryside, animals, cooking, WLTM older male to spoil and look after. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378481

**MAUREEN** seeks male 32-45 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 323543

**SLIM** professional, attractive, amiable lady, seeks genuine, articulate, professional gent, 55 plus with GSOH, who enjoys the good things in life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386615

**33YR** old black haired, medium built, 5ft 3ins female seeking soul mate. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 389799

**MARIA** 38, blonde, 5ft 5ins, caring, likes nights in/out, seeks caring male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 329319

**NATALIE** 30, attractive, size 12, black, seeking male for romantic fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387753

**SINGLE** mum, 36, 2 children, seeks fun loving male with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 382595

**GENUINE** female, 36, brunette, blue eyes, 5ft 7ins, fun, outgoing, adventurous, GSOH, looking for tall, honest, genuine male for good companion, dates and romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388327

**SHAPELY** attractive, light skinned black female, 39, seeks attractive, fit, male, 30's, builder type, tanned, rugged for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 231152

**PATRICIA** 5ft 5ins, red hair, blue eyes, likes nights out, meals, clubs, seeking nice young man who is kind, generous to look after me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378207

**ATTRACTIVE** slim blonde, 45, seeks honest, caring, genuine male, 45-55 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 349651

**28YR** old brunette, seeks fun loving, adventurous male for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 380918

**FEMININE** caring, young, mid 60's N/S woman, varied interests, seeks genuine, loyal male of similar age to share togetherness and LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 321931

**DIONNE** 5ft 3ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, medium build, 42, single mum, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376801

**JANICE** attractive female, 50, size 12-14, seeks younger gent, 40-50 for fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376115

**KATHY** caring lady 60, medium build, smoker, seeks caring, smart male 55-65 for companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 374773

**BETTY** fuller figured black female, 26, body confident, affectionate, WLTM older chocolate loving male for daytime meets. Any status. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 377511

**FEMALE** medium build, seeks nice N/S male, 40-42 for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 337985

**LOUISE** 43, 5ft 5ins, medium build, average looks, likes reading, meals out, cinema, theatre, quiet pubs, honest, genuine, kind, caring, GSOH, seeks male, 42-58. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391308

**FUN** loving lady, 56, outgoing, honest, caring, seeks, caring male, 55-60 for friendship, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391192

**CARLY** beautiful slim brunette looking for naughty mature male 50-70yrs for fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376569

**WIDOW** genuine, 70, kind, caring, N/S, seeks male for friendship, relationship, holidays and outings. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 303133

**PROFESSIONAL** independent lady, 49, slim, blonde, attractive, varied interests, seeks intelligent, romantic, sincere, genuine male with GSOH for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 359351

## SINGLE MEN

Ladies Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people. Send : CHAT207 To : 65125.

(T&C's below)

A really nice divorced gent, late 40's, 6ft 1ins, fair hair, kind, caring, romantic, GSOH, seeks lady for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392474

**38YR** old slim, genuine male, GSOH, seeks female, 40-55 to enjoy life with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392330

**DUNCAN** 43, attractive, honest, sincere, looking for attractive lady for friendship/companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392328

**JOSEPH** 40 tall, GSOH, seeks female, 26-48 for fun and relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394103

**GOOD** looking male, brown hair, blue eyes, 5ft 6ins, seeks female for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392092

**HONEST** loyal male, 64, seeks lady for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393759

**DAVE** 47, well built, divorced, 2 children, WLTM lady of similar age for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393789

**DON** 55, 5ft 6ins, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks lady, any age for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392100

**5FT** 6ins male, blue eyes, generous, likes a drink, cinema, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392094

**32YR** old slim, dark haired male, adventurous, creative, likes music, walks, cycling, photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 352753

**THOMAS** 39, seeks female, 27-48 for relationship and fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392851

**45YR** old male, average build, GSOH, likes country walks, meals out, don't be shy, now reply. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393137

**KIND** honest, caring, male, 70, likes socialising, holidays, OHAC, seeks female, 60-70 for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393053

**DARK** handsome male, Tiger Woods lookalike, seeking BBW. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392179

**DUNCAN** 43, attractive, honest, sincere, looking for attractive lady for friendship/companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392326

**TALL** good looking guy 48, smart, friendly, GSOH, seeks female for fun only friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394229

**CHRIS** GSOH, loving, loyal, likes walks, music, seeks female to love and treat well. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392320

**MATTHEW** 5ft 3ins, medium build, good body, seeking fit female for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393743

**CHRIS** GSOH, loving, loyal, likes walks, music, seeks female to love and treat well. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392320

**JOHN** seeking dominant male to bring out my feminine side. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394705

**SEAN** 45, caring, kind, loving, animal lover, seeks female with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394149

**LOOKING** for love, young 62yr old N/S male, 5ft 9ins, blue eyes, sincere, genuine, OHAC, seeks N/S lady with no ties. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394017

**TIGER** Woods lookalike, seeks big beautiful woman for fun and games. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393737

**MALE** 70's widow, kind, honest, caring, likes socialising, holidays, nights in/out, seeks loving female for respectful, caring relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393559

**GOOD** looking 48yr old male, GSOH, honest, caring, loyal, hurt in past, looking for loving female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394159

**PROFESSIONAL** male, 42, hurt in past, seeks female, 32-40. Single mum welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392765

**NAUGHTY** 40 something, tall, smart, GSOH, seeks lady for rainy days and Sundays. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392665

**TOM** 62, fit, likes tennis, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392659

**MALE** 38, seeks female, any age for daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392845

**GOOD** looking 39yr old male, likes pubs, music, walks, swimming, seeks nice female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392943

**51YR** old male, 6ft, dark hair, single parent, likes most things, sports, seeks slim, honest, caring female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392933

**KEVIN** attractive young looking 45yr old, slim, fit, varied interests, likes football, meals out, cinema, pubs, holidays, nights in, GENT 58, OHAC, retired, sensitive, caring, warm, easygoing, N/S, seeks N/S slim, attractive lady for friendship/companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393515



# What's On! Halesowen

## Club is staging a musical weekend

A WEEKEND of music and fun will be staged at a club with events for all the family.

The events will take place at The Laurels Club, in Windmill Hill, Cradley.

Singer Dave Manhattan will sing songs from the 60s and 70s on August 25.

People will be able to bring their own music to sing on August 26 and the venue will hold a family fun day on August 27.

It will have the theme of a day at the races and include a bouncy castle, barbecue and netball shoot-out. The event starts at 1pm. For more information call the club on 0121 602 1812.

## Classic Holmes mystery drama

DUDLEY Little Theatre will bring their production of the crime classic The Hound of the Baskervilles to Netherton Arts Centre from September 5 to 8.

The mysterious death of a prominent local citizen brings Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson to the English countryside, where many believe a mysterious hound is fulfilling an ancient family curse.

Tickets for the show, which starts at 7.30pm, are £7 and £5 for concessions. Call 01384 812812.

## Secrets at canal

THE Mikron theatre group will perform Can You Keep a Secret, about the Luddites, at Stourport Canal Basins on September 5 at 7.30pm.

# Top acts at V make sure the sun never sets on festival fun

AROUND 90,000 revellers descended on a sun-kissed Weston Park for a V Festival to remember. A host of top acts including The Stone Roses, The Killers, Tinie Tempah, Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds, Snow Patrol and Ed Sheeran wowed jubilant crowds over the two-day event.

## Comedians get crowds rocking with laughter

IT WAS not all about the music at V Festival – a fourth stage provided welcome relief for the eardrums as some of the UK's top comedians had people laughing in the aisles.

Sean Lock and Milton Jones were among those to perform as fans lapped up the classic varied assortment of acts found at V every year.

And Tim Minchin's unique brand of musical comedy proved particularly popular.

After bounding on stage like a rock star, piano player Minchin, who was born in England and raised in Australia, launched into an entirely musical set.

An adoring crowd either hung on his every word or sang along in unison as Minchin tackled issues such as religion or prejudice, all approached with his trademark cheeky grin.

Despite a mixed forecast there was glorious sunshine on both days, although wellies were still part of the V uniform as areas of the campsite and music arena turned into mud baths thanks to overnight rain.

But a bit of mud could not dampen the spirits of the huge crowds who enjoyed V's usual eclectic mix of acts.

Saturday's headliners, and long-time V favourites, The Killers produced an exhilarating set, drawing songs from their three top 10 albums and previewing new material from the as-yet unreleased Battle Born.

Old favourites Madness and Tom Jones and hot new things Emeli Sande and Frank Turner attracted huge crowds.

There was a Britpop flavour to the 4Music stage thanks to Dodgy, Shed Seven and The Charlatans, while Noel Gallagher's Oasis-heavy set was the perfect excuse for an evening singalong.

Other big hits over the weekend were Example, David Guetta, Olly Murs, Rizzle Kicks, Keane and Wolverhampton songstress Beverley Knight.

But fans of Nicki Minaj were left disappointed when she cancelled her appearance at the last minute citing strained vocal chords, with LMFAO filling in her headline slot.

Tickets for next year's V Festival were due to go on sale from 9am on Wednesday, at 2012 prices.



Stone Roses Ian Brown during their storming set

## Oh, yes, they are adored!

### Stone Roses

THEY were making their V Festival debut shortly after reforming following a 15-year hiatus. But Manchester indie rockers The Stone Roses – arguably the biggest draw of the weekend – seemed right at home on the V stage as they delivered a storming set.

In front of a jubilant crowd the Roses rattled off hit after hit in a performance lasting 90 minutes.

Front man Ian Brown welcomed the crowd by saying "Yeah? We're The Stone Roses" before launching into seminal Manchester song I Wanna Be Adored.

After such a big build-up to what could be their final festival appearance in the UK, the first half of the show seemed a little low key, but the quartet moved through the gears in the second half with a string of anthems.

Fools' Gold and Love Spreads earned wild appreciation from the crowd before The Is The One and She Bangs The Drums preceded landmark set-closer I Am The Resurrection.

There were hugs all round from the grinning band – whose relations became severely strained after their split in 1996 – when they took unrestrained acclaim as a spectacular fireworks display polished things off perfectly for the weekend.

Tim Spiers

## Concert is primer for band's album

AN UP-AND-COMING rock band who are about to record their first album are to play at a Dudley pub.

Primer will play a charity gig at the Lamp Tavern, High Street.

The Dudley group has spent the past year touring the country and recently played at The Slade Rooms in Wolverhampton.

They will perform at the Rock for Sophie event at the tavern, over this weekend of August 24-26.

In September they will head to The Basement Studio, Turner Street, Dudley to record their album.

## Special event has an animal theme

A FREE animal-themed event for children with special educational needs is being held at Long Lane Library, Halesowen, on August 24.

The session will last an hour and start at 1pm. Children will be able to learn more about different species of animals at the events. They are free to attend but places must be booked in advance on 01384 813041. To find out more go to [www.dudley.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/libraries)

## Killer tribute act

A QUEEN tribute band will take to the stage in Coseley next month. We Will Rock You will be at Coseley WM Club in Ivy-house Lane on September 27.

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5 Days • 4 Nights: 17 September from £239.95, 15 October, 26 November from £199.95

#### Rimini

Rimini is the classic Italian seaside resort with miles and miles of soft golden sands and a whole host of bars, cafes, restaurants and shops. We stay for 6 nights at a carefully selected 3\* hotel

#### Included excursions:

- San Marino • Bologna
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### Late Summer & September Specials

Folkestone & Bruges - Grand Burstin Hotel

31 August - 4 Days • 3 Nights from £139.95

London & Brighton - Russ Hill Hotel

01 September - 2 Days • 1 Night from £59.95

Mystery Tour

01 September - 2 Days • 1 Night from £49.95

Paignton - Bonair Hotel

01 September - 4 Days • 3 Nights from £139.95

Bournemouth, Weymouth, Swanage & Lulworth Cove

Manchester Hotel

03 September - 5 Days • 4 Nights from £189.95

Folkestone & Bruges - Grand Burstin Hotel

03 September - 5 Days • 4 Nights from £159.95

Fort William & the Isle of Skye

Croft Anna Hotel

03 September - 7 Days • 6 Nights from £399.95

Great Little Trains of North Wales

03 September - 5 Days • 4 Nights from £209.95

Rhine Valley & Black Forest

03 September - 5 Days • 4 Nights from £199.95

Torquay & the Devon Riviera - Bancourt Hotel

03 September - 5 Days • 4 Nights from £179.95

Paris - 07 Sept - 4 Days • 3 Nights from £179.95

Tenby & The Mumbles - Greenhills Country Hotel

07 September - 3 Days • 2 Nights from £99.95

Chester, Llandudno & The Horse Shoe Pass

08 September - 2 Days • 1 Night from £59.95

Italian Dolomites Super Saver

08 September - 8 Days • 7 Nights from £259.95

Lake Garda - Hotel Centrale

08 September - 8 Days • 7 Nights from £399.95

Mystery Tour

08 September - 2 Days • 1 Night from £49.95

Blackpool Illuminations Break - La Tour Hotel

10 September - 5 Days • 4 Nights from £159.95

Bournemouth, Swanage, Lulworth Cove

Belvedere Hotel

10 September - 5 Days • 4 Nights from £179.95

Eastbourne Super Deal - Glastonbury Hotel

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# What's On!

## SATURDAY'S TV 25.08.12

### CHOICE



Katie Derham

#### BBC Proms 2012

#### BBC2, 8pm

It's easy to classify 19th-century theatrical duo Gilbert and Sullivan's works as comedies. However that viewpoint fails to take into account the fabulously dark operetta *The Yeomen of the Guard*, which is performed here in a partial staging from the Royal Albert Hall in London. Jane Glover conducts the BBC Concert Orchestra and BBC Singers through the piece, which features baritone Leigh Melrose as Lt Sir Richard Cholmondeley, alongside tenor Andrew Kennedy, soprano Lisa Milne and mezzo Victoria Simmonds and Felicity Palmer. Katie Derham presents.

### BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** Lorraine's Fast, Fresh and Easy Food. (R) **12.00** BBC News. **Regional News: Weather.** **12.15** Football Focus. **1.00** Jessica Ennis: Golden Girl. **1.30** British Olympic Dreams. **2.00** Live Challenge Cup Rugby League Final. Leeds Rhinos v Warrington Wolves (Kick-off 2.30pm). With commentary by Dave Woods and Jonathan Davies, and analysis by Brian Noble and Ian Millward. **5.00** BBC News. **Regional News: Weather.** **5.20** All New Total Wipeout.

**6.20** Film: *Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl*. (2003) A rogue captain and a blacksmith set sail to rescue a governor's daughter from feared supernatural pirates. Swashbuckling fantasy adventure, starring Johnny Depp and Orlando Bloom.

**8.30** *The National Lottery: Secret Fortune*. High-tension quiz show presented by Nick Knowles in which contestants have the opportunity to win £100,000.

**9.20** *Casualty*. A baby's condition suddenly deteriorates and it is left to Tom to revive her. Tamzin and Jeff attend to a lap dancer who has collapsed, and Sam attempts to unravel a mystery.

**10.10** BBC News. **Weather.** **10.30** *Match of the Day*. Gary Lineker presents highlights of today's Premier League clashes, including Chelsea v Newcastle United at Stamford Bridge and Manchester United v Fulham at Old Trafford. **National Lottery Update.**

**12.00** The Football League Show. **1.15** Weather. **1.20** BBC News.

### BBC2

**6.00** CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **12.00** Film: *Homeward Bound II: Lost in San Francisco*. (1996) **1.25** Film: *Gymnast*. (2011) Documentary following gymnasts training for the 2008 Olympics. **2.55** Film: *Tara Road*. (2005) Drama, starring Andie MacDowell and Olivia Williams. **4.30** Final Score. **5.15** Coast. **R. 5.45** The Hairy Bikers' Food Tour of Britain. (R)

**6.30** *Flog It!* James Lewis and David Fletcher view items at the Palace Theatre in Kilmarnock, East Ayrshire, while Paul Martin visits the only factory in the world still making Nottingham lace. (R)

**7.30** *Dad's Army*. The ARP wardens' HQ is bombed, forcing them to rub shoulders with the Home Guard in the church hall. Comedy, starring Arthur Lowe, Bill Pertwee and John Le Mesurier. (R)

**8.00** *BBC Proms 2012*. From the Royal Albert Hall, Jane Glover conducts the BBC Concert Orchestra and BBC Singers in a production of Gilbert and Sullivan's operetta *The Yeomen of the Guard*.

**10.30** *TOTP2*. Mark Radcliffe introduces archive performances by Fine Young Cannibals, Badfinger, Kriss Kross, Elvis Costello, Luisa Sobral and Cyndi Lauper. Last in the series. (R)

**11.30** Film: *Before Sunrise*. (1995) An American and a Frenchwoman meet by chance on a train and form a close bond during a day in Vienna. Richard Linklater's romantic drama, starring Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy.

**1.10** Film: *Once*. (2006) **2.30** Close.

### ITV1

**6.00** CITV: Mini CITV. **7.20** CITV. **8.25** Saturday Cookbook. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show. **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. **11.20** The Real Housewives of New York City. **12.20** The Real Housewives of New York City. **1.20** ITV News. **Weather.** **1.25** The Hit Factory: The Stock Aitken & Waterman Story. **R. 2.25** Countrywise. **R. 3.00** Film: *A View to a Kill*. (1985) **5.30** Regional Programme. **Weather.** **5.45** ITV News. **Weather.**

**6.00** *You've Been Framed Extreme!* Harry Hill narrates a selection of some of the most extreme clips filmed by viewers, featuring various trampoline tumblers and a bike rider enduring an uncomfortable landing. (R)

**7.00** *Red or Black?* Including target practice with footballers Darren Bent and Bobby Zamora.

**7.45** *The X Factor: Spice Girl Mel B Joins Gary Barlow, Tulisa and Louis Walsh* at the Manchester auditions, where more aspiring pop stars take to the stage. **Dermot O'Leary** hosts.

**9.00** *Red or Black?* **9.45** *The Jonathan Ross Show*. Suranne Jones talks about her comedy *A Touch of Cloth*, Ray Winstone discusses his new film *The Sweeney* and Formula One ace Jensen Button also drops in.

**10.45** ITV News. **Weather.** **11.00** Film: *Duplicity*. (2009) Thriller, starring Julia Roberts and Clive Owen.

**1.15** The Store. **ITV News**. **Headlines.** **3.05** In Plain Sight. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

### CHANNEL 4

**6.00** The Hoobs. (R) **6.25** British Formula Ford Championship. **6.55** BG Energy Challenge. **7.25** The Grid. **7.55** The Morning Line. **8.55** T4: V Festival 2012: The Best Bits. (R) **9.25** T4: iTunes Festival 2012: Preview. **9.45** T4: New Girl. **10.15** T4: Revenge. **11.15** T4: Suburgatory. **11.50** T4: Summer Daze. **12.25** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.55** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.20** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **1.55** Channel 4 Racing. **3.55** The Simpsons. (R) **4.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.55** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.55** Come Dine with Me. (R)

**6.25** *Come Dine with Me*. Denis Verrier hosts the final dinner party in Bath. (R)

**6.55** *Channel 4 News*. **7.25** *4thought*. A Muslim artist shares her thoughts about the female body.

**7.30** *Whatever Happened to Harry Hill?* The comedian looks back at his Channel 4 sketch show. (R)

**8.30** *Harry Hill*. (R)

**9.00** *C4's 30 Greatest Comedy Shows*. Celebrating some of the station's most memorable comedy series, exploring the impact shows including Father Ted, Spaced and The Inbetweeners have had on British TV.

**11.05** *C4's Greatest Comedy: The Winner Is*. Two documentaries about the show that won the viewers' poll.

**1.10** Vintage Comic Strip: Bad News Tour. (R) **1.45** Comedy Lab: Anna & Katy. (R) **2.10** Happy Endings. **2.35** Film: *Alamar*. (2009) **3.55** St Elsewhere. (R) **4.40** Deal or No Deal. (R) **5.35** Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. (R)

### CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake! **10.00** Power Rangers Samurai. **10.35** Batman: The Brave and the Bold. **11.10** Looney Tunes. (R) **11.15** Looney Tunes. (R) **11.25** Celebrity Big Brother: The Eviction. (R) **12.55** Monkey Life. (R) **1.30** Film: *Blue Thunder*. (1983) **3.30** Film: *Wet! Meet Again*. (2002) **5.20** Film: *Jesse Stone: No Remorse*. (2010) **Premiere**. Detective thriller, starring Tom Selleck.

**7.05** *5 News Weekend*.

**7.10** NCIS. (R)

**8.00** NCIS. Nikki Jardine volunteers to help Tony investigate the murder of a marine in Baghdad – but her behaviour makes him suspect she had an ulterior motive in requesting the assignment. (R)

**9.00** *Celebrity Big Brother*. Highlights of the famous housemates' past 24 hours under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother, as they try to get used to living alongside one another.

**10.10** *CSI: Miami*. The team travels to the remote island mansion of horror writer Marilyn Milner, whose housekeeper has been found dead with a suspicious bite mark on her neck.

**11.10** *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*. A criminal fleeing the city after committing a murder is involved in a car crash and strangles the other driver to prevent her identifying him. (R)

**12.05** SuperCasino. **4.00** HouseBusters. (R) **4.25** Divine Designs. (R) **4.50** Rough Guide to Journeys. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpine. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

### DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00** Fearne and Greg @ Reading  
**8.00** The Vaccines and Florence and the Machine @ Reading **10.00** Kasabian Live @ Reading

**BBC Four**  
**7.00** Africa's Magnificent Beasts  
**8.00** She-Wolves: England's Early Queens **9.00** Inspector Montalbano **10.40** The Elder: Fatal Attraction **11.40** Doctors in the Death Zone

**ITV2**  
**2.40** America's Got Talent **4.30** America's Got Talent: Results **5.25** Film: *Garfield: A Tale of Two Kitties* (2006) **7.00** Film: *About a Boy* (2002) **9.00** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **9.15** The Xtra Factor **10.15** Film: *Mamma Mia!* (2008)

**ITV3**  
**4.50** Agatha Christie's Poirot **7.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **9.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot **11.00** A Touch of Frost

**ITV4**  
**2.05** Film: *MacArthur* (1977) **4.45** Film: *Shalako* (1968) **7.00** Cycling **8.00** Minder **9.00** Film: *Rocky IV* (1985) **10.55** Film: *The Big Lebowski* (1998)

**5.4**  
**3.15** Film: *Alvin and the Chipmunks* (2007) **5.00** How I Met Your Mother **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.30** Rules of Engagement **8.30** Suburgatory **9.00** Film: *My Stepmother Is an Alien* (1988)

**11.10** The Big Bang Theory **Film4**  
**3.05** The Ladykillers (1955) **4.55** Addams Family Values (1993) **6.45** Runaway Bride (1998) Romantic comedy, with Julia Roberts and Richard Gere, with Joan Cusack, Hector Elizondo and Rita Wilson.

**9.00** Die Hard 4.0 (2007) Action thriller sequel, starring Bruce Willis. **11.30** Jennifer's Body (2009)

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## What's On!

## SUNDAY'S TV 26.08.12

## CHOICE



Martin Shaw

## Inspector George Gently

**BBC1, 8.30pm**  
There's nothing like a good, old-fashioned crime drama to entertain us on a Sunday evening, and they don't come much better than Inspector George Gently. When we catch up with Gently and Bacchus, the year is 1968 and as racial unrest sweeps the US, the National Front is wreaking havoc in Britain. But in Newcastle, racial harmony can be found in dance parties known as "all-nighters". Sadly, the peace and friendship of these events is shattered when a young black girl, Dolores Kenny, is found dead at one of them.

## BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** BBC News. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Country Tracks. (R) Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.00** BBC News. **12.05** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **1.05** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.05** Cash in the Attic. (R) **2.45** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.45** Ocean Giants. (R) **4.45** Songs of Praise. **5.20** The Indian Doctor. (R) **6.05** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **6.30** Britain's Hidden Heritage. Paul Martin travels to Co Down to visit Mount Stewart country house and Clare Balding heads to Staffordshire to learn about Lichfield Cathedral's stained glass. **7.30** Countryfile. Adam Henson recalls some of the team's favourite editions featuring livestock. Matt Baker seeks help from his family at lambing time in County Durham, and goats visit the dentist. **8.30** Inspector George Gently. New series. The detective investigates the murder of young black woman Dolores Kenny, a regular at a local club's northern soul all-nighters. **10.00** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **10.25** Match of the Day 2. Including highlights of Liverpool v Manchester City. **11.25** In with the Flynns. (R) **11.55** Film: Flashbacks of a Fool. (2008) Drama, starring Daniel Craig. **1.40** Weatherview. **1.45** Sign Zone: The Dark Nature's Nighttime World. (R) **2.45** Holy City. (R) **3.45** Amish: A Secret Life. (R) **4.45** BBC News.

## BBC2

**6.00** CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** The Great British Bake Off. (R) **12.30** MotoGP. **2.00** Live Athletics. **5.00** Oceans. (R) **6.00** TOTP2: Summertime Special. Archive summer sounds, featuring songs by the Undertones, Bananarama, Bay City Rollers, Fun Boy Three, the Style Council, Martha and the Muffins, Bryan Adams, Girls Aloud and ELO. (R) **7.00** Top Gear. Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond and James May put three supercars through their paces in Italy and look forward to some of 2012's most exciting cars. With guest Will.i.am. (R) **8.00** Exploring China: A Culinary Adventure. Ching-He Huang and Ken Hom embark on the final leg of their journey by exploring Cantonese cuisine in Guangzhou, before visiting their ancestral homes. Last in the series. **9.00** Toughest Place to Be a Ferryman. Colin Window, a bridge officer on east London's Woolwich ferry, travels to Bangladesh's capital Dhaka to work on the world's busiest waterways. **10.00** Murder. Drama, starring Karla Crome and Joe Dempsie. **11.00** Film: A Guide to Recognising Your Saints. (2006) Dito Montiel's autobiographical drama about his struggle to escape his roots in the crime-ridden New York of the 1990s. Starring Robert Downey Jr. **12.35** Film: Adam & Paul. (2004) **2.00** BBC News. **4.25** Close.

## ITV1

**6.00** CITV: Mini CITV. **7.20** CITV. **8.25** Dinner Date. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** House Gift. (R) **10.25** There's No Taste Like Home. (R) **11.25** The Hungry Sailors. (R) **12.30** ITV News; Weather. **12.40** The X Factor. (R) **1.55** The Unforgettable Pat Phoenix. (R) **2.25** Film: Columbo: Uneasy Lies the Crown. (1990) **4.25** Doc Martin. (R) **5.25** The Talent Show Story. (R) **6.30** Regional Programme; Weather. **6.45** ITV News; Weather. **7.00** The Chase: Celebrity Special. Bradley Walsh invites comedian Jimmy Carr, Coronation Street's Jack P Shepherd, retired rugby union player Matt Dawson and Commons Speaker's wife Sally Bercow to play the quiz. **8.00** Celebrity Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? School's Out. Three famous faces are joined by their teenage children for a one-off edition of the big-money quiz, aiming to raise as much cash as possible for charity and one lucky viewer. **9.00** The Last Weekend. The rivalry between Ian and Ollie steps up a gear and the tension is further heightened by the arrival of Daisy's colleague Milo. **10.00** ITV News at Ten; Weather. **10.15** Film: Tomorrow Never Dies. (1997) James Bond battles to stop a media mogul's plan to start a war between Britain and China. Spy adventure, starring Pierce Brosnan. **12.25** The Store: ITV News Headlines. **2.30** Golden Balls. (R) **3.20** Motorsport UK. **4.10** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

## CHANNEL 4

**6.00** The Treacle People. (R) **6.10** The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** Ironman 2012. **7.00** Channel 4 Presents - Lee Pearson "Lone Rider". (R) **7.05** Road to London 2012: Paralympics Extra. Profiles of four athletes likely to dominate their events. Last in the series. **7.35** Surfing Special: The Endless Winter. **8.00** Will & Grace. (R) **8.30** Will & Grace. (R) **8.55** Frasier. (R) **9.25** Frasier. (R) **10.00** Sunday Brunch. **12.25** Jamie Does Andalucia. (R) **1.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.55** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.20** The Simpsons. (R) **2.50** The Simpsons. (R) **3.20** Three in a Bed. (R) **4.20** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.25** Deal or No Deal. **6.20** Channel 4 News. **6.50** 4thought.tv. A transsexual comedian reveals how she feels about her body. **6.55** Film: X-Men Origins: Wolverine. (2009) The mutant hero returns to his military unit seeking revenge as he is drawn into a battle with his psychotic brother. Superhero prequel, starring Hugh Jackman. **9.00** Peter Kay Live at the Manchester Arena. A performance recorded in 2003. (R) **10.00** Bad Sugar. Spoof melodrama, starring Sharon Horgan, Olivia Colman and Julia Davis. **10.50** Black Books. (R) **11.20** Dylan Moran Live: Yeah, Yeah. **12.25** Comedy Lab: Dynamo's Estate of Mind. (R) **12.55** Da Ali G Show. (R) **1.30** Comedy Lab: Ricky Gervais - Golden Years. (R) **1.55** The Mark Thomas Comedy Product. (R) **2.25** Happy Endings. **2.50** Hollywood. (R) **4.50** Deal or No Deal. (R) **5.45** Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. (R)

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) **6.25** City of Friends. (R) **6.40** Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. (R) **6.50** Castle Farm. (R) **6.55** Abby's Flying Fairy School. (R) **7.05** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.15** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **7.25** Play! (R) **7.35** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **7.45** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **7.55** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **8.00** Little Princess. (R) **8.15** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.30** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **8.55** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **9.15** The Mr Men Show. (R) **9.30** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.45** Jelly Jam. (R) **10.00** Power Rangers Samurai. **10.35** Batman: The Brave and the Bold. **11.10** Looney Tunes. (R) **11.20** Celebrity Big Brother. (R) **12.30** World's Scariest Near Misses. (R) **1.20** Film: What About Bob? (1991) **3.10** Film: The Kid. (2000) **5.20** Mutt Ugly: World's Ugliest Dog. (R) **6.20** Film: Beauty and the Beast. (1991) Premiere. Disney animated fantasy, with the voice of Paige O'Hara. **8.00** Once Upon a Time. Emma and Regina are forced to work together to help Henry. Last in the series. **8.55** 5 News Weekend. **9.00** Celebrity Big Brother. The ups and downs of BB life. **10.00** Film: Two Weeks Notice. Romantic comedy, starring Sandra Bullock. (2002) **11.55** Frontline Police. (R) **12.55** SuperCasino. **4.00** Sons of Anarchy. **4.50** Rough Guide to Bang for Your Buck. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshakes. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00** Kaiser Chiefs and Django Django @ Reading **8.00** The Black Keys and Two Door Cinema Club @ Reading **9.00** Foo Fighters Live @ Reading **10.00** Family Guy **10.45** Bad Education **11.15** Foo Fighters @ Reading  
**BBC Four**  
**7.00** Himalaya with Michael Palin **8.00** The Thirties in Colour **9.00** Film: Brideshead Revisited (2008) **11.05** Wilderness Explored  
**ITV2**  
**3.10** Film: Free Willy 3: The Rescue (1997) **5.00** Film: Beethoven (1991) **6.45** The X Factor **8.00** The Xtra Factor **9.00** Benidorm **10.00** Lemon La Vida Loca **10.45** Film: The Fugitive (1993)  
**ITV3**  
**3.55** Film: Carry On Cowboy (1966) **5.45** Agatha Christie's Poirot **8.00** The Story of the Costume Drama **9.00** Film: Atonement (2007) **11.25** Cracker  
**ITV4**  
**11.00** British Touring Car Championship. Live coverage of the seventh round of the season from Knockhill. **6.00** The Sweeney **7.00** Cycling. The ninth stage of the Vuelta a Espana. **8.00** Film: The Alamo (1960) **11.00** Film: Resident Evil (2002) Sci-fi action horror, starring Mila Jovovich.  
**E4**  
**3.10** Charlie's Angels **4.05** New Girl **4.35** Suburgatory **5.05** Revenge **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **8.00** Film: Volcano (1997) **10.05** Rude Tube: Extreme Rides **11.05** 2 Broke Girls **11.35** New Girl  
**Film4**  
**2.45** The Parent Trap (1998) **5.15** Black Knight (2001) **7.05** Angus, Thongs and Perfect Snogging (2008) **9.00** Rush Hour 3 (2007) **10.45** The Final Destination (2009)

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West Midlands  
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Contact Alan Bowler 07885 255862  
or David Matty 07711 503255

Name:		Age on the day of event	
Male	Female:	Telephone Number:	
Address:		Email Address:	
Post Code			
Please Tick: Running/walking <input type="checkbox"/>		Are You Running as Part of a Team/Family	
Walking with a pram <input type="checkbox"/>		NO: YES:	
In a wheelchair <input type="checkbox"/>		if yes Team/Family Name:	

Individual participants must be over 16 on the day of the Fun Run. Anyone under 16 taking part must be accompanied by an adult at all times. **Entrants under the age of 16 must have the form signed by a parent/guardian.** Pets are not permitted.

An Entry Fee and Signed Form is required for each runner including team entries.

Adults (16 and over) £8	Children (under 16) £4	Family Ticket (2 Adults & 2 children) £15
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Please make cheque's payable to "Rotary Club of Halesowen & Rowley Regis Benevolent Fund" and enclose with the registration form.

By signing below, you agree to the following:  
I am taking part in this event at my own risk and acknowledge that the organisers are not responsible for death, personal injury or any losses or damage arising from participating or as a consequence of participating in the Halesowen & Rowley Regis Rotary Fun Run.

I have read and agreed to the terms & conditions. Please visit [www.h5k.org.uk](http://www.h5k.org.uk) to view terms & conditions

Signed Signature Of parent/guardian (if participant is under 16)	Date:
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## What's On!

### Film Choices

#### MONDAY

**Eagle Eye, BBC1, 11.20pm**

Two strangers find themselves on the run from the authorities when they receive mysterious phone calls informing them their lives are in danger. They are forced to follow the instructions of a woman who is tracking their every move, while at the same time trying to discover who is behind the conspiracy. Thriller, starring Shia LaBeouf, Michelle Monaghan, Rosario Dawson and Michael Chiklis. (2008)

#### TUESDAY

**Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, Channel 4, 1.50pm**

Two notorious outlaws' routine of bank and train robberies is cut short when a seemingly unstoppable posse is formed to catch them. The pair plan to flee America and start a new life in Bolivia, with the Sundance Kid's schoolmistress lover in tow – but staying ahead of the law is not so easy. Western, starring Paul Newman, Robert Redford and Katharine Ross. (1969)



Eagle Eye, Monday, BBC1, 11.20pm

#### WEDNESDAY

**The Jacket, ITV1, 10.35pm**

A marine discharged from service for injury-related amnesia finds himself accused of murder and declared insane. Sent to an asylum, he is subjected to increasingly brutal treatment – but the so-called therapy has an unexpected effect on his mental state. Psychological thriller, starring Adrien Brody, Keira Knightley, Kris Kristofferson, Jennifer Jason Leigh and Kelly Lynch. (2005)

#### THURSDAY

**A Running Jump, Channel 4, 11.50pm**

A man's attempt to buy a second-hand car in London's East End becomes surprisingly complicated when he crosses paths with a selection of colourful characters, including a rogue trader and his unusual family. Mike Leigh's short comedy, commissioned for the London 2012 festival, starring Lee Ingleby, Eddie Marsan, Samantha Spiro, Robert Punt, Danielle Bird, Nichole Bird and Sam Kelly. (2012)

#### FRIDAY

**Stay Alive, ITV1, 10.45pm**

Youngsters get their hands on a mysterious and grisly video game and immediately start to play. But while battling for the highest score, they begin to realise that the deadly virtual events are becoming a reality – and race against time to pull the plug on the real-life killings. Horror, starring Jon Foster, Samaira Armstrong, Frankie Muniz, Jimmi Simpson, Wendell Pierce, Sophia Bush, Adam Goldberg and Milo Ventimiglia. (2006)

### Pick of the Week

## Hoping to keep the feel good factor going

**W**e're a sturdy old nation if nothing else. For those of us who sat through the nail-biting Olympic Games – from the opening ceremony through the emotional wins and near-wins of Team GB, to that surprise-laden closing ceremony, we have certainly done ourselves proud.

The eyes of the world have been on us since we celebrated the Queen's Jubilee back in June, and we haven't once crumbled – but the pressure is far from off, as the next stint of the Games is officially declared open in London 2012 Paralympic Games Opening Ceremony.

Due to the success of the Olympics, ticket sales for the Paralympics have soared and, at the time of writing, the surge had meant it was on track to be the first to sell out in the event's 52-year history. London 2012-Paralympics is as rare as ever, something that former Paralympic swimmer Rachael Latham is intensely proud of. She said: "When we won the bid, and everybody was saying how the

Paralympics will be so much bigger, I always wondered how they were going to make sure it was on par with the Olympics. And the best thing is that I don't think they've needed to do that much [to promote it] – people simply want it to be [a big hit]. Everyone is excited for the Paralympics, which I don't think we've ever had before. It definitely wasn't like that when I was racing in Beijing. I think it's going to be a new era for the Paralympics."

Rachael is the current European record holder for 200m butterfly, world record holder for 50m butterfly and 200m backstroke British record holder. She took part in two finals in the Beijing Paralympics, but an injury meant she had to retire from competitive swimming in 2009, and couldn't be involved in London 2012 – at least not in the way she had previously known. However, she is on presenting duties and will be covering all the action down on the front line for Channel 4 – and that's the next best thing, according to Rachael.

She explains: "There was no way I wasn't going to get involved in London 2012. When I couldn't go with swimming, I just had to find a new way to be able to get there. "Obviously I'm an athlete at heart and I always will be but I couldn't have asked for anything more than to be part of the media. Channel 4 is going to do a great job and I'm so excited."

But let's not get ahead of ourselves – as the opening ceremony gets underway, Channel 4 stalwarts Jon Snow and Krishnan Guru-Murthy present from what promises to be a phenomenal start to the occasion; especially given that the Paralympics originated in the UK in 1948.

We can expect a spectacle that challenges perceptions of human possibility, including a fly past by Aerobility, a British charity that trains disabled people to become pilots, a parade of all the competing nations, and, of course, the official entrance of the Paralympic Flame.



Jon Snow presents the ceremony from the Olympic Stadium, London 2012 Paralympic Games Opening Ceremony, Wednesday, Channel 4, 8pm

### Best of the Rest

#### MONDAY

**Harry's Mountain Heroes**

**ITV1, 9pm**

This inspiring one-off documentary follows five soldiers who were wounded on the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan, but who are now preparing to take on one of the biggest challenges on Earth – scaling Mount Everest. Although Prince Harry (or as the Olympic announcers call him, Prince Henry) was unable to take part in the climb because of other commitments, he has been there to support captains Martin Hewitt and David Wiseman, privates Jacob van Gass and Karl Hinnett, and doctor Francis Atkinson in his role as both a patron and a friend. He even turns up to see them off at Heathrow as they prepare to fly to Nepal. But even with a royal to inspire them, the challenge of trying to reach the top is fraught with danger.

#### New Tricks

**BBC1, 9pm**

When Jack Halford (James Bolam) ended the last series of the detective drama by telling his boss Sandra (Amanda Redman) that he didn't really care whether he lived or died, most viewers didn't give it that much thought. After all, it wouldn't be the first time a run had ended with the threat that an old dog was going to give up on New Tricks. However, this time around it seems Jack actually meant it, as he shocks Sandra, Brian (Alun Armstrong) and Gerry (Dennis Waterman) by announcing his resignation. The team are keen to find out why, but shadowy Whitehall official Stephen Fisher (Tim McInnerny) wants them to put their skills to a very different use.

#### TUESDAY

**ACCUSED**

**BBC1, 9pm**

Liverpudlian comedian John Bishop has done the odd acting role in the past, but this week's drama really gives him something to get his teeth into. He plays Peter, a father of two whose wife is dying. Peter tries to ease the pain his teenage sons Stephen and Dom will feel, and is pleased to have the help and support of palliative care nurse Charlotte. But eventually, after his mum's death, Stephen suspects that Charlotte may not be the saintly figure his dad thinks she is, and begins to be plagued by doubts and anxieties. But, most puzzling of all, why does former spin doctor Alistair Campbell keep appearing to talk to him?

#### WEDNESDAY

**BRITAIN THEN AND NOW**

**ITV1, 9pm**

In June this year, many people threw street parties to help celebrate the Queen's diamond jubilee – and that proved to be a surefire way of getting to know the folk living around them. One such bunch of residents from east London were tasked with recreating the same style of bash that would have gone on in 1953, when the Coronation took place. All they had to go on to help them were a handful of photographs of the event that happened on their road all those years ago – until they managed to track down some

of the original partygoers. The research and organisation revealed some fascinating social changes that have happened in the decades since, as this documentary reveals.

#### THURSDAY

**BRITAIN BY NIGHT**

**ITV1, 9pm**

If we're to believe news reports and certain sections of the media, Britain is a dangerous place at night. But it's actually a minority of folk who suffer during the wee small hours; the rest of us get on with our lives just as we would during the day, although if this documentary is anything to go by, thoughts and emotions can be more

heightened once darkness falls. Among the people featured here is Tony, whose constant battle to keep London's streets clean once the crowds have gone home is tempered by his feelings toward the break-up of his marriage. But it's not all doom and gloom; Indian bride Nisha's dream is about to come true, while midwife Natalie supervises an emotional delivery.

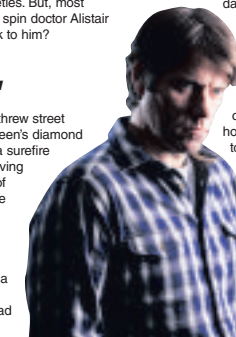
#### FRIDAY

**UEFA SUPER CUP**

**LIVE**

**ITV1, 7.30pm**

The Stade Louis



Accused, Tuesday, BBC1, 9pm

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#### HALESOWEN, BROMSGROVE ROAD

Located in a semi rural location, is this nice unfurnished traditional semi detached house, comprising of: Two Reception Rooms, Three Bedrooms, Fitted Kitchen with Utility Area, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, House Bathroom with Shower, Driveway Parking, Lovely Rear Garden with Decking Area

**£725 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, JIMARA, FELDON LANE

Situated in Halesowen/Blackheath, is this extended traditional semi-detached house with plenty of space. Comprising of: Large Living Room, Separate Dining Room, Study, Two Double Bedrooms, One Large Single Bedroom, House Bathroom with Shower, Gaily Kitchen with Appliances, Separate Utility Room, Downstairs WC, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Large Driveway for 3 Cars

**£695 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, TOYS LANE

This 3 storey 1880's victorian town house, ideally located for bus routes to Halesowen, Stourbridge and Merry Hill, close to local shops and situated in the catchment area for Coley Lane Primary School. Comprising of: Two Reception Rooms, Brand New Fitted Kitchen, 3 Double Bedrooms, Master Bedroom with En Suite, 1 Bathroom with Fitted Shower, Rear Garden, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Parking on Road or Car Park Opposite.

**£695 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, MORAY CLOSE

A modern three bedroom semi-detached house comprising of: Large Lounge/Dining Area, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double and One Large Single Bedrooms, Bathroom with Separate Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Garage and Driveway. Popular Location, Close to Rail/Bus Links and Schools.

**£675 PCM**



#### ROWLEY REGIS, PEARTREE DRIVE

Situated in a quiet cul-de-sac and close to the M5, is this modern unfurnished detached house, comprising of: Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Downstairs WC, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Master Bedroom with En-Suite, Garage and Driveway Parking, Gardens

**£650 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, BLAGDON ROAD

A three bedroom part furnished to suit three storey town house in this very popular residential area, close to Newfield Park School, Earls and Windsor. Comprising of: large living room, fitted kitchen with appliances, three double bedrooms, bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing, garage and driveway parking. Available immediately.

**£650 PCM**



#### STOURBRIDGE, PROSPECT GARDENS

Located close to Stourbridge Town Centre, is this unfurnished mid terraced house, comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Fitted Dining Kitchen, Cosy Lounge, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Bathroom with Shower, Small Rear Garden, Parking Space to Front

**£525 PCM**



#### ROWLEY REGIS, WINWOOD ROAD

A part furnished to suit semi detached family home in a popular location, close to the M5 J2, briefly comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Double Glazing Gas Central Heating, Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen with Appliances, House Bathroom with Shower, Front and Rear Gardens and Driveway Parking for 2/3 Cars. Available End of August.

**£525 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, HIGHFIELD CRESCENT

A part furnished two bedroomed and terraced house in Coley Gate, close to local shops, bus links to Halesowen/Stourbridge and Merry Hill, within the catchment area of Coley Lane Primary School. Briefly comprising of: Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Utility Room, Two Double Bedrooms with One Room having Fitted Wardrobes, Large Shower Room, Rear Garden, On Road Parking. Available Immediately.

**£495 PCM**



#### QUARRY BANK, NEW STREET

A Detached Bungalow comprising of: Large Lounge, One Double Bedroom, Newly Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom with Corner Bath and Separate Shower Cubicle, Gas Central Heating, Part Double Glazed, Rear Garden, Driveway for Two/Three Cars. Available End Of August.

**£495 PCM**



#### CRADLEY HEATH, HALAS COURT

An unfurnished third floor apartment, close to local shops, train station, and bus routes, briefly comprising of: Lounge, Fitted Kitchen with Appliances, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Communal Gardens, Electric Gates leading to Secure Parking Area, Internal Inspection Recommended

**£495 PCM**



#### NETHERTON, ROUND STREET

An unfurnished semi detached house, in a popular area, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Rear Garden, Driveway Parking

**£475 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, MANOR LANE

A furnished flat above shop, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Living Room, Large Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Shower Room, Secure Parking

**£475 PCM**



#### UPPER GORNAL, TUDOR VALE

Unfurnished end mews house briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Living Room, Fitted Dining Kitchen, Two bedroom, Bathroom, Rear Garden, Parking Space

**£475 PCM**



#### NETHERTON, ROCK HAVEN

An immaculately presented modern 1st floor unfurnished apartment, situated close to shops and bus links, comprising of: Open Plan Kitchen with Appliances/Lounge with Large Bay Window, Two Bedrooms, House Bathroom with Shower, Double Glazed and Electric Heating, Communal Gardens and Parking Space Available. Available Immediately

**£450 PCM**



#### CRADLEY HEATH, ELBOW STREET

Situated in a quiet location, within walking distance to Old Hill town and local train station is this unfurnished first floor flat, comprising of: Electric Storage Heating, Large Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, One Double Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Communal Gardens, Allocated Parking.

**£450 PCM**



#### OLDBURY, CAUSEWAY GREEN ROAD

This large, split level flat above shops, within walking distance to bus links and close to J2 of the M5, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Spacious Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Parking to Rear, Unfurnished £400 for the 1st 6 months and £425 after

**£400 PCM**



#### CRADLEY HEATH, HALESOWEN ROAD

This value for money part-furnished terraced house, close to Old Hill town centre and Old Hill train station, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms and One with Fitted Wardrobes, Gas Central Heating, Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen with Appliances, Downstairs Bathroom with Shower, On Road Parking, NO REAR GARDEN

**£400 PCM**



#### ROWLEY REGIS, THE LINK, PORTWAY ROAD

An unfurnished ground floor apartment, close to motorway access, briefly comprising of: Electric Storage Heating, Open Plan Living Room/Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Parking Space

**£395 PCM**



#### BRIERLEY HILL, FOXDALE DRIVE

Situated in a quiet location and within walking distance to Brierley Hill town centre and a short drive or bus to Merry Hill Shopping Centre is this ground floor apartment, comprising of: One Double Bedroom and One Single, Fitted Kitchen, House Bathroom with Shower, Spacious Lounge, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, One Allocated Parking Space

**£395 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, APPERLEY WAY

Located on the popular development of the Homer Hill Estate, is this spacious first floor apartment, briefly comprising of: Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Communal Gardens, Allocated Parking

**£375 PCM**

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This semi-detached in Beachcroft Road, Wall Heath, which backs onto open countryside is available for £194,950

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**BACKING onto open fields, this property in the desirable location of Wall Heath village is on the market priced at £194,950.**

The traditional semi-detached house in Beachcroft Road has been extended and offers accommodation including two separate reception rooms and three excellent size bedrooms.

It is set back behind a large driveway which leads to a garage, and to the rear is a large and established cottage-style garden.

On the ground floor the lounge, 12ft 9in by 12ft 7in, has a living flame gas fire with stone style feature fireplace surround, while the dining room measuring 12ft 7in by 10ft 9in also has a living flame gas fire with feature fireplace surround. The fitted kitchen, 9ft 6in by 8ft 6in, has a range of units with roll edge work surfaces, stainless steel one and a

half bowl sink/drainage with mixer tap, plumbing for slim-line dishwasher, four ring gas hob with cooker hood over and integrated electric double oven.

A utility room, 14ft 9in by 10ft 2in, has plumbing for a washing machine, space for a tumble dryer and other appliances and door to a shower room with white suite of corner shower cubicle, vanity unit with wash basin and WC.

On the first floor are three bedrooms and a refitted bathroom of white suite comprising panel bath with shower above, vanity unit with inset wash basin and WC.

The rear garden has a paved/chipped patio with steps down through shrub areas to a lawn with borders, ornamental pool and further chipped patio leading to a pergola and down to a greenhouse and pebbled garden area to the rear with pergola and established borders.

For more information, call Taylors on 01384 401777.



The kitchen is well-equipped, with gas hob, cooker, wall and base units. There is also a utility room beyond



The good-sized garden found to the rear of the Beachcroft Road home which has three bedrooms on offer



# MOTERING NEWS AND REVIEWS

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Your essential guide to the world of motoring compiled by Motoring Editor Sharon Walters

## Upbeat on this VW despite the name!



The only way is up! Volkswagen have come up with a nifty number at the right price

Let's get something out of the way first . . . why do car companies settle on ridiculous or even comedic names to call new models?

Silly question really, we all know it's down to marketing and focus teams trying to validate their vast fees on such tasks.

Volkswagen has not really fallen into that pit too deep but the name of their latest city car has been the object of some derision.

up! (yes the lower case initial letter and exclamation mark are part of the name) is a totally new car from the marque, a sub-Polo sized vehicle in the wake of the Fox and the Lupo. Animal names are not so bad even though we have one English and one Italian in the former and latter. But Up! is dreadful, it looks ridiculous in the middle of a sentence and even incorrect. Exclamation marks are meant for emphasis at the end of sentences. So I shall just refer to it as the Up hereon.

With the pressure on motoring costs, demand for sub-compact cars has grown enormously and sales are impressive. So the Up is a good move for Volkswagen in the marketplace which includes the lovely Fiat 500.

I love the modern 500 because it reminds me of the days of the original model, a time of carefree days as a student when I drove to university in and old but endearing bubble.

And I found, to my surprise, that I like the Up. It is good looking front and back and inside that

continues. While the entry level may be a little basic for not much more money you can get a trim level that is well fitted out. You can also make the car your very own with well-priced options for personalisation - from the dashboard to the wheels.

Then we come to the added attraction above the 500 - the space inside. The 3.5 metre Up really does surprise. Four can be transported with some comfort and no elbow bashing for up to six footers. While the boot may be small in terms of space between the seats and boot lip, it is deep and the rear seats are standard with split capability.

Powering the up! is a new generation of three-cylinder petrol engines, with outputs of 60 and 75 PS.

### Consumption

Combined fuel consumption for the 60 PS Blue-Motion Technology model is 68.9 mpg on the combined cycle with CO2 emissions of 95 g/km; even the more powerful 75 PS unit stays under the 100 g barrier with just 98 g/km. The fuel economy they give is very good, although if you want to press on and work the engines hard, watch that figure slump.

Parking is easy, there's good steering, it glides around town and even on motorways and it also rides well even when you take it out on some of Shropshire's pothole strewn country lanes. The gearchange is precise and clutch and brake pedals are nicely weighted and progressive, making it very easy to drive smoothly.

Three versions are available: Take up!, Move up! and High up! with prices starting at £7,995. All are competitively priced and offer a high level of standard equipment. Two special edition models - the up! black and up! white - which are based on the High up! are also available. All models have a raft of safety features including ABS and four airbags, while all except Take up! also have standard ESP. An important new safety technology in the up! is the optional award-winning City Emergency Braking system which at speeds of under 19 mph detects the risk of an impending collision and can reduce accident severity by initiating automatic brake interventions that can even avoid a crash.

The up! is one of only a few vehicles in the segment to be offered with this function. It also has a top score in the Euro NCAP tests.

A lot in an unusually named package!



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# Express & Star





Splendid Sportback – the A1 is arguably the best looking Audi on the street

The quality of the cabin is enhanced by a minimalistic dashboard

# Audi A1 Sportback eases into family life

**IT had to happen sometime. The call finally came in for the comfortable and tough Q5 to go back home, and so it needed to be replaced with something different.**

It just so happened that the call came in at the same time as the Audi A1 Sportback appeared in the UK, and the chance to run around in one for six months raised an obvious question: in this era of belt-tightening and down-sizing, can you really switch from a big SUV to a super-mini? Too late to back out now.

**By Matt Joy**

My plans to pamper the A1 from the day it arrived were even more quickly destroyed. The need to travel to various parts of the country, cope with the shopping and even handle my two young kids on a weekend away meant the A1 simply had to get on with it.

Despite being as good as half the size of the mid-sized SUV, the A1 did a fine job of carrying me, two boys in car seats and all of the gear.

Sure the boot was stuffed to the gills and I had to use the footwells a little, but this is a B-segment hatchback; the fact that you can utilise all of its footprint is a real bonus.

And having become thoroughly fed up of paying through the nose for diesel, the A1 had to be a petrol, particularly because Audi is one of those firms at the forefront of the petrol renaissance.

## Cylinder

So this particular Sportback runs the 1.4-litre TFSI with 122PS (that's 120bhp in old money) hitched up to the seven-speed S tronic transmission.

Sadly the even more impressive 1.4 turbo with cylinder deactivation isn't available yet, but this version perfectly covers all the bases.

It has usefully more poke than the 1.2 TFSI and with a 0-62mph time of nine seconds flat, it qualifies as a warm hatch in my book. Yet it clocks up an official 53.3mpg combined and just 122g/km of CO<sub>2</sub>.

Of course, you have to drive it appropriately to get those figures, and to be perfectly honest I've not yet managed to restrain myself.

The trouble is it feels far too sporty to be driven like an eco-special, at least when you're as easily influenced as me.

With the S tronic box, you can keep both hands on the wheel, and although it's turbocharged, you do need to rev it a little to extract maximum performance – hence it's not yet doing 50 miles per gallon.

This wasn't helped by the fact it went to visit its glamorous big brother in the shape of the R8 GT Spyder.

They share more than just a body colour, too: OK so I'm not going to tell you the A1 is the perfect substitute for a £130,000 supercar, but the A1 is huge fun on a back road chiefly because it is small, relatively light and responsive.

The Sport trim brings with it stiffer suspension and although you might wish for the softer SE when you're traversing the worst pot holes the UK can offer, the trade off is well worth it.

And if you spec it right, the A1 Sportback can look like a junior hot hatch, too. Upgrade to one of the pretty 17in wheels designs for around £500 and you have the looks to go with the performance.

You can even add a rear spoiler and a modest body kit for a few pounds more. Regardless of any option box ticking, the A1 is arguably the best looking Audi on the street.

The way the bonnet wraps into the front wings is just like the TT, and the extra pair of doors are seamlessly integrated into the shape. It's also hard not to like small cars; the A1 pulls off wearing the premium four rings of Audi and doesn't suffer for it either.

It might be a small Audi but you still get all the big Audi stuff. The cabin is a real quality piece of work and depending on how much you decide to spend, it can have all the bells and whistles.

Yet it doesn't suffer from a rash of buttons and instead has an appealingly minimalist dashboard that feels expensive, and little details like the screen that simply folds away by clicking it into place show some real thought.

It's been a busy month but the A1 Sportback has dived right in and got on with the job. Next month I promise a) to wash it a lot more and b) to stop driving it flat out all the time to give it a chance of making the right fuel economy.

Before you blame your car for not making the combined figure, take a look at yourself...

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**Performance:** Top speed 126mph, 0-62mph in 9.0 seconds  
**Economy:** 53.3mpg combined (official), 36.29mpg average in month one

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The revised CBR1000RR Fireblade took a bow at Le Mans and Imola, to high praise from race-goers

## Iconic Honda racer given a makeover to mark 20 years

**HONDA'S revised CBR1000RR Fireblade for 2012 is a model which celebrates 20 years of this iconic sports bike following its debut as in 1992.**

The machine was revealed simultaneously at two world class racing events – the Le Mans 24 hours round of the Endurance World Championship and the 11th round of the World Superbike Championship in Imola, to great praise from attending race-goers.

The revised Fireblade sports new styling with a more angular front end, layered main fairing and revised tail section, with new front and rear suspension providing a key new feature. Introduced for the first time on a pro-

duction motorcycle, an advanced new rear shock uses a double-tube design to ensure smoother and more accurate response, superior damping and improved traction. The front features inverted 43mm telescopic front forks with Showa's Big Piston technology, offering improved damping, increased front tyre grip and better stability under braking. The two combined provide for unrivalled traction without the need for electronic aids.

New fuel injection settings for the 999cc inline-4 engine will make throttle response even smoother and easier to use, particularly at smaller throttle openings, while the stylish 12-spoke cast aluminium wheels provide more consistent rigidity around the whole wheel to work with the new forks to

deliver improved handling. On hand to unveil the new machine were John McGuinness, 17 times TT winner and racing at Le Mans for the Honda TT Legends Team, and Jonathan Rea, rider for the Castrol Honda Team in the World Superbike Championship.

McGuinness said: "I've got a real soft spot for the Fireblade. I've ridden it in many of its evolutions and different racing events over the years and had a lot of success with it. In fact, some of the most memorable moments of my career have been on the Fireblade."

Rea added: "I feel like I have grown up with the Fireblade. It's such an iconic machine and it's an unbelievable feeling being the man to actually reveal the latest version."

## Ariel's Atom supercar to race in its own cup series



Atom racing cars will all run on 2.0-litre Honda Type R iVTEC engines, Yokohama will provide tyres.

**A CYNIC will point out that the success of any of Britain's famous motoring brands is all down to foreign investment and management, with names such as Rolls Royce, Bentley, Aston Martin, Jaguar and Land Rover all benefiting from varying degrees of European influence.**

But in a quiet corner of Somerset, an entirely home-grown car manufacturer continues to buck the trend.

The Ariel Motor Company in partnership with Atomic Race Management has announced plans for the

Atom Cup, a new UK-based race series featuring the ultra-light Ariel Atom supercar. Designed and built by Ariel Motor Company in Somerset, the Atom has become an icon of minimalist design and lightweight performance with a power to weight ratio in excess of most supercars.

Spanning eight race weekends at the UK's best circuits, from Brands Hatch to Silverstone, the Atom Cup will feature matched Atoms in full race specification.

Engines, ECU and dampers will all be sealed and the cars will run on control tyres supplied by Yokohama, which is sponsoring the series.

All cars will be powered by the legendary 2.0 Honda Type R iVTEC

engine and the series is also supported by Honda. Paul Ormond of Honda UK said: "We are very excited by the opportunity to support this new series. Competition has always been at the heart of Honda and the Atom Cup should provide some exciting racing."

Simon Saunders, director of Ariel, said: "This is something that we've talked about for a while and we have spent a lot of time getting the details exactly right, from the car right through to the catering."

"Our aim is to provide fair, competitive and enjoyable racing at reasonable costs to drivers who want to progress from track days, young guys who want to move into professional motorsport and simply those who love racing."

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### Lost & Found

**LOST**

Saturday, August 11 from Villiers Avenue, small black cat with red collar, bell attached, 3 years old,

microchipped

Any information

01902 402807.

**LOST** - Black and white neutered male Cat, blue collar with name tag, August 11, Featherstone, 01902 861573.

**LOST** - Lady's gold coloured watch, Dudley Town Centre, Telephone 01384 211994.

### personal

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Seek motivated people to sell and earn 33% + bonus/incentives text/call Lynne 07891 470111

**GENTLEMAN, LATE 50'S**

Seeking a lady between 40-60 for a long term relationship. I'm a very kind and trustworthy person. I live on my own and have my own business. I'm very outgoing, enjoy walking, going out for meals and going on holiday. It would be nice to have someone to share these things with. Genuine replies only please. Write Box No. P17992 (WS), Shropshire Newspapers Ltd, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

**GENUINE HARDWORKING**

Male, 50yrs, 6ft 1in, shaven head, blue eyes, considered attractive, no ties, NS, own house, likes most things in life.

WLM a genuine honest lady, slim to medium build for an affectionate relationship, 40-50yrs.

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Are looking for attack minded players for next season. We are a friendly team and club who have just been awarded the M.B.E for services to football. Players should ideally have played before as part of a team setup. We train on Wednesdays and Saturdays, also pre-season friendlies arranged. Kev on 07903862526.

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**MOBILITY SCOOTER**, Large Smith Rascal, red. Good condition. Large 55ah batteries. £285. 01384 822591.

**MOBILITY SCOOTER**, Pride Elite Traveller Plus. As new. Cost £1,195. Easy to transport. £330. 07895 07665.

**MOBILITY SCOOTER**, Wheeltech Vitessse. High and low speed switch. Good condition. £320 ono. 07848 40053.

**MOBILITY SCOOTERS** from £350 can deliver, servicing available Call: Powerlink Blackheath 01902 569216/07831 246292

**STAIRLIFT**, unused, Acorn Superglide 120, straight, lift in box, remote, manual. Buyer to collect. £300 ono. 07752 252345.

**furniture**

**BEAUTIFUL QUALITY LEATHER** corner settee, modern, 6 seater, new 7 months, cost £1,800, sell £1,400. 07854 897206.

**BLACK LEATHER** Three piece suite, six months old, cost £2,200 sell £1,000. 01922 445275.

**Bargain**

**BROWN LEATHER 3-PIECE SUITE**

Never used, cost over £1,000, genuine reason for sale. £400.

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**CASUAL TABLE**: 900 x 400mm. Genuine Indian origin. clep hant design. hand made marquetry inlay. c1940. 955. 01785 665292.

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**LEATHER RECLINER CHAIRS**, 2 dark brown, in good condition, £180. 01630 657859.

**STAG MINISTRAL** bedroom furniture, 6 piece set, £350 ono. 01902 620405 after 5.30pm.

**THREE SEATER** Sofa, 1 chair, 4 cushions to match, gold brocade, excellent condition, must be seen £255 01922 491000.

**TWO MATCHING** green leather sofas, very good condition, dark wood back. £150. 07747 117146.

**RAILWAY COLLECTIONS WANTED**

**ANY GAUGE OR AGE**

Hornby, Bachman, Wrenn and Graham/Parish. Any make, also live steam. Guaranteed top cash prices paid!!

0121 602 2569 or 07891 713547

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**GAS COOKER** glass lid/door, auto-timer, £75. Freezer, under counter, £55. 01922 478446.

**GAS COOKER** glass lid/door, auto-timer, £75. ono Freezer, under counter, £55. 01922 478446.

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Colour stable, very good condition, can be used for cooking and to run up to 8 radiators, can be seen working. £1,350.

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**BAILEY SCORPIO** Loire, 4-berth, 1993, fair condition for year. £1,750 or very near offer. 0753 2327413. Stourbridge.

**CARAVAN FOR SALE**

**BK BLUEBIRD CARNIVAL**

26 x 12, 2 bedroom, DG, CH, fridge/freezer, new galvanised steps, connected to electric and water, immaculate bespoke holiday caravan, all manufacturers warranties, pitch fees included. 15 year park term. Sited at Sand Bay coastal Somerset Village. Family owned and dog friendly park by the sea. Genuine sale. Only 1 month old. Cost £27,965 price to sell bargain £20,950 ono. 01934 412680 or 07801 734823.

**CARAVAN, MID WALES**

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**CHEAP SMALL INDUSTRIAL UNITS** for rent in Brierley Hill suitable for storage from £20 + VAT p/w Tel 0208 203 4131

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2012 site fees paid, modern throughout, must be seen for full details phone £10,995 for quick sale 01902 631406

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2009, 5-berth. Careful, non-smoking owner. 5,250 miles, so condition as new. Rear kitchen, Heiki rooflight, electric step etc. Gold warranty, FSH, year MoT. £24,500, o.n.o. 01746 712151 evenings.

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**MOTORHOME PEUGEOT BOXER**  
2.2HD, 06, HAB check, 2 berth, 13,000 miles, cat 1 alarm, reversing sensor, Omnistor awning, roof extras.  
£25,000.  
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For sale is my Elite Caravan in the Shropshire/Herefordshire border, it's perfect for peace and tranquility. The caravan is in excellent condition and ground rent is paid until 2013. Pets are welcome and the site is open for 11 months of the year, perfect for that getaway.  
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**WILLERBY ASPEN 3FT X 12FT**  
Two beds, one en-suite, Central Heating, Double Glazing.

**Sighted on Cotswold Grange Country Park.**  
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Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a puppy farmer.

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.

2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.

3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.

Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

**AFFECTIONATE** 5 year old neutered brother cats, looking for a home together. 07947 360786.

**ALASKAN MALAMUTE** Puppies, KC Reg, pedigree, £500 each. 02002 561331.

**BABY MINI** Lop rabbits, 10 weeks old, £20. 07775 966790.

**BENGAL HALFBRED** Leopard spot kittens Mother pure bred Family pet £150. 01694 781367.

**BICHON FRISE PUPPIES**, 8 weeks old, pedigree, wormed, deflead, £350. 07906 831760.

**BICHON FRISE PUPPIES**, 9 weeks old, had 1st vaccination, £280 each. 07976 176169.

**BLACK LABRADOR** Puppies, KC applied, Parents hipvets tested. 01746 780344 or 07973 521391.

**BORDER COLLIE PUPPIES**, 9 weeks old, both parents can be seen, £100 each. 07976 176169.

**BORDER TERRIER** cross Jack Russell Puppies, happy, healthy, 11 weeks old, 2 boys, 2 girls, 1st vaccinations, £200. 07968 960856 (Kidderminster).

**BRITISH** short-haired kittens, pedigree, vaxcs, insured, lovely natures, £350. 07505 554793.

**FEMALE AFRICAN GREY** Parrot, 2 yrs old, talks with ease. £500. 01384 860190 / 07526 430718.

**FOREST DOG RESCUE**  
Rehoming - Sprackie - X Breed, 2yrs, male, Cleo - GSD X, 4yrs, female, Gracie-May - GSD X Collie, 8mths, female, Zippy - Lurcher, 3yrs, male, Brian - Doberman X Mastiff, 4yrs, male, Casper - GSD X, 18mths, male, Delegate - Greyhound, 4yrs, male, Bobby - X Breed, 1yr, male, Theo - Staffie male, 18mths, Vinnie - Rottie, 3yrs, male, Ivy - Staffie, 3yrs, male, Sean - Border Collie, 5mths, male, Boyce - Lab X Staffie, young male.

01299 266313 or 07564 262371  
www.forest-dog-rescue.org.uk

**FOUR YEAR** old male Jack Russell, gentle, reason for sale. 01902 562829 or 07521 409837.

**FREE TO GOOD HOME** Black and white kittens 8 week old, Flea'd & wormed. 01822 712072.

**GERMAN SHEPHERD** Puppies, big boned, chunky, 10 weeks old, 1st vacc, £250 each. 07977 146920.

**GOLDEN RETRIEVER** Puppies, 10 weeks. Telephone 07784 516406.

**HELLO MY NAME IS**

I have an old fashioned name and I am an old fashioned girl. I am a very black mature greyhound with soft gentle eyes and a temperament to match.

I am now in rescue but I need a gentle loving home to spend the rest of my days. Also other dogs, please phone for more information. Sue 01743 872395 Carol 01588 676106.

**HORSEFIELD TORTOISE** and aquarium, £150. 07824 776122.

**JACK RUSSELL PUPPIES**, 9 weeks old, can be seen, £75 each. 07977 146920.

**JACK RUSSELL** puppies, mixed colours, £180 no offers. 07514 132731 or 07921 063479.

**KING HOME WANTED** Is a placid, friendly Rottie cross, good with other dogs and people. He is looking for a kind home. Telephone 01584 890032.

**KITTENS** short haired, 2 black, 2 black and white, ready now, very good homes only. 07833 33370.

**KITTENS**, various colours, £20 to £500 homes only. 07835 651158.

**PAWS/Wild Acre Rescue** We currently have around 70 beautiful cats and kittens in our care.

So, if you are looking for a feline friend, please have a look at some of them on www.wildacrerescue.co.uk or telephone 01902 753192 07144429262 01902 751779

Please note - we are unable to take any more cats until some of those in care have been rehomed.

**RESCUED BABY** Dwarf Rabbits, 25 each. Loving homes only 07854 048357.

**ROTTWEILER CROSS** bitch, 3 years, home, friendly, ready to go home. 07992 936406.

**SHIH TZU** Puppies, boys, free now, £425. 01384 348995 / 07590 763661.

**SHIH TZU** Puppies, pedigree, 2 bitches, Mum/Dad can be seen, wormed, £390. 01902 889753.

**SIBERIAN HUSKY** male, aged 6, black/white, pedigree, genuine sale, needs home with breed experience, no all day workers or other pets, very friendly. £200. 0789 910583. After 6pm.

**TEACUP** Chihuahua pedigree, boy, 4 years, genuine reason, good with children, lovely temperament. £400. 01785 229653.

**VIVARIUMS**, lights, thermometers, decor, heaters, dishes, very good condition. £90 ono. 4ft x 2ft, £200. 01562 897574.

**WANTED** - Avary birds for large private aviary. Also pigeons and poultry for beginner and parrot for house pet. 07970 485491.

## guns & dogs

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS**  
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

**what's on**

## markets

**BIGGEST SUNDAY MARKET IN THE MIDLANDS**  
Bescot Stadium, Walsall FC VSI 45A, FREE PARKING, J9 M6 07889 91571. All hand standing  
Also open Bank Holiday Monday 27th August  
Car Boats welcome Monday

## property

### accommodation to let

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1983, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

**A FURNISHED ROOM** single person, CH, TV, cleaning, linen, all bills, £275pcm. Stafford Road, 01902 374375. No DSS.

**BEAUTIFUL 1 bedroom flat**, furnished, Compton Road, £360pcm. 07886 002704.

**BILSTON**, 2 bed flat, CH, DG, near Hill, CH, DG, £550pcm, deposit required. 07971 476945.

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## Depressing display sees Old Hill fall easy prey

**Old Hill 61, Wombourne 62-2. Wombourne won by eight wickets**

OLD HILL'S batting crumbled as they were beaten in Birmingham League Division One.

Nitesh Patel made 31 but no-one else could get into double figures.

A depressing display was down to the bowling of Wombourne's Michael Hill, who took 7-20 off 10.2 overs while Wombourne wicket-keeper Jon Smith held eight catches.

In reply, Wombourne passed 50 before losing a wicket and coasted home.

**Leamington 169-9, Old Hill 138.**

**Leamington won by 31 runs**

The seconds lost a tight game at Leamington.

Matthius Treuberg (3-37) and Nicholas Couzens (3-29) were among the wickets as the home side were pegged to 169-9 off their 50 overs.

Old Hill lost two quick wickets in reply, but opening batsman Afrush Ali (34) and No.4 Oliver Moseley (33) managed to put them back on track.

However, when they departed the bottom order batsmen had work to do and were unable to take the victory.

Leamington's Jack Hawkes was the main bowler to blame with figures of 5-22.

**Old Hill 89, Old Vigornians 90-4. Old Vigornians won by six wickets**

In the Worcester League, the home team won the toss and elected to bowl.

Old Hill thirds made hard work of batting first, but plodded on and managed to obtain 89 off 39.2 overs.

Old Vigornians bowler Azmat Riaz (6-26 off 13.2 overs) was the star of the innings.

Their batsmen chipped away at their target.

Phillip O'Neil made 33 as his side reached the target in the 22nd over.

**Old Hill 124, West Malvern 125-7. West Malvern won by three wickets**

Old Hill were put in to bat by the visitors on a very changeable day.

Careful batting saw their top order all get to double figures with Jehanzaib Baig top-scoring on 32.

However, the lower order could do very little against the bowling of West Malvern but managed to push their final score to 124.

Old Hill's bowlers made a good start, but a tight match was swung by the batting of West Malvern's middle and lower order.

# Striker on a high as he hits hat-trick

**Tivdale 5 Highgate United 0**  
STRIKER Brett Clark notched a hat-trick as Tivdale hammered Highgate United out of sight in this Midlands Alliance clash.

Tivdale started brightly, but it was the visitors who almost took the lead in a three-minute spell. It turned out to be the only time they looked likely to score in Tuesday night's game.

In the 13th minute Jake Brown forced Tivdale goalkeeper Tim Beech into a comfortable diving save to his left. A minute later, Oliver Casey sent a curling shot against the home team's crossbar

before being cleared by Andy Parsons. Seconds after that, Sean Ellis hit a powerful volley from 25 yards into the arms of Beech.

Four goals in the final 10 minutes of the first-half clinched the game. Clark opened the scoring when he neatly placed the ball past the onrushing Shaun Edwards after being sent clear.

Four minutes later central defender Parsons scored with a vicious shot from 20 yards.

In the 43rd minute Tivdale struck again when a fine overlapping run by full-back Jason Chilton resulted in a splendid cross

## Tivdale FC

to the far post which was tapped in by Kyle Hill. The scoring spell was complete in time added on when Clark met another good cross, this time from the hard-working Kyle Brady, to head the ball home from close range.

Three minutes after the break, Clark completed his treble with another cool finish after being put through.

Tivdale are at Heath Hayes in the FA Cup on Saturday, and despite easing up late in this game

they still went close to adding to their score on several occasions.

**Tivdale 3 Westfields 4**  
Tivdale put their supporters through a full range of emotions on Friday night at The Beeches when they somehow managed to turn victory into defeat in the final minutes of a pulsating match when Westfields' Craig Jones grabbed the winner in injury time.

The home side conceded a goal in the third minute when Westfields central defender Scott Jackson headed in a free-kick unchallenged. They levelled in the 10th minute when Ashley Edwards

scored from 15 yards following a corner.

But in the 24th minute their frailties were again exposed when overlapping full-back Will Loughman beat keeper Tim Beech at his near post to restore the visitors' lead.

Tivdale began the second-half in dominant style and finally equalised when the lively Kyle Brady touched home a free-kick.

Adam Hill then slotted home from eight yards to put Tivdale in front, only for Aiden Thomas to equalise before Jones rose to head the winner.

# What a way to start Clarke's Albion reign

## Albion 3 Liverpool 0

**NEW head coach Steve Clarke has just one problem after this opening day victory: How does he follow it?**

He hopes for a long and successful career in management. But it is hard to imagine he will ever experience another day quite as perfect as his first, *writes Steve Madeley.*

Three points, a clean sheet and a stunning opening goal from a returning Hawthorn's hero made for a dream competitive debut for the Baggies' new head coach.

In fact, had Clarke allowed his mind to wander in the days before his Albion reign began 'for real', it is doubtful even he could have conceived something quite as special as he got on Saturday.

There was a fine debut from one summer signing, Claudio Jacob, who walked away with the sponsors' champagne on his first day in the English game.

And there was a debut goal from another, Romelu Lukaku, who produced an eye-catching cameo that hinted at some memorable moments to follow.

### Bonus

Shane Long's tame penalty miss was, perhaps, the only element of a splendid day that might not have featured in Clarke's fantasy.

There was the added bonus, too, of claiming his fabulous first-day victory against the club who deemed him surplus to requirements just a few months ago.

Most of all, though, it was the day that Clarke was welcomed into the Albion 'family' - and the significance of the weekend's win cannot be under-estimated when it comes to his acceptance by the Hawthorn's faithful.

However warmly the ultra-loyal Baggies fans welcomed Roy Hodgson's successor when he made his way to the dugout on day one of his tenure; however much they had resolved to give him a chance, inevitable



Steve Clarke applauds the supporters

questions remained. The decision to replace the club's most successful Premiership boss with one cutting his teeth in the 'big chair' was seen by many as a gamble.

So starting with one of the most momentous wins in recent Albion memory can only do wonders for the public perception of their new gaffer, as will the style in which it was delivered. Saturday's win earned Clarke a little extra time; some added breathing space in which to stamp his own mark on the team that Hodgson left behind.

The early signs were hugely encouraging, as the Scot chose his first game at the helm to claim his first piece of Baggies history.

The win was Albion's best to kick off a Premier League campaign, their largest in an opening fixture for 21 years and their biggest to begin a top-flight season since a Tony Brown double helped them see off Chelsea 3-0 at The Hawthorns in 1977. An



The Zoltan of swing: Gera lashes home a stunning volley to put Liverpool in dire straits

added bonus was they achieved the success while showing clear signs of the additional attacking freedom that Clarke is intent on injecting into the solid, defensive DNA of Hodgson's side.

At times they rode their luck. On another day the lively Luis Suarez might have had a hatful of goals, but the Uruguayan was left frustrated by his own woeful finishing and Ben Foster's smart goalkeeping.

On a different occasion referee Phil Dowd could have waved away the borderline penalty decisions that went in favour of Clarke's men, but on Saturday he got them right and Albion cashed in.

There was little to choose between the sides for much of the first half with the visitors arguably shading things.

Suarez could have given Brendan Rodgers' side the lead when he fired at Foster on 10 minutes, and he should have

found the net on the half-hour but headed wastefully over from Glen Johnson's cross.

But it was Zoltan Gera who got the Clarke era properly up and running two minutes before half-time, marking his first appearance for nine injury-hit months with his first Albion goal in more than four years - rifling home a wonderful 25-yard half-volley from Martin Skrtel's under-hit header.

The game should have been sewn up before the hour when Long was tripped by Daniel Agger en route to goal and the Dane was sent off, but Long rolled the spot-kick weakly at Pepe Reina.

It was all over five minutes later when Long was sent tumbling by Skrtel and Peter Odemwingie hammered home the spot-kick.

Substitute Lukaku's arrival added extra excitement and the big Belgian rose at the far post to nod home Liam Ridgeway's inviting cross and wrap up the scoring.

## It's fun in the sun as Tipton make hay

**Heather St John's 0 Tipton Town 2**

TIPTON shone in the sun to claim victory in this Midlands Alliance clash.

Town took the game by the scruff of the neck and dominated so much that Neil Page in goal never had a shot to save in the 90 minutes.

Max Bissell was captain for the day, before leaving Britain's shores for a career abroad.

Karl Edwards scored twice but all 10 outfield men were outstanding and for the first time this season, Tipton converted their chances.

Edwards' first goal came in the 16th minute. Good work by Eric Bowen in the corner set up Bissell for a perfect cross to find Edwards at the far post who headed the ball past the motionless keeper.

All efforts by Heather to break out of their own half were snuffed out by a resilient back seven of Tipton.

The Heather defence struggled to contain Lewis Haycock and Edwards, ably supported by Max Black, Tom Tonks and Mike Wardle. The game was sealed in the 61st minute by Edwards who threw himself at a near-post Martin cross.

## Heathens get revenge over Tigers

**Dudley 54 Mildenhall 40**

DUDLEY gained revenge for the first National League defeat of the season which Mildenhall inflicted upon them at the weekend.

But the Fen Tigers may well be back. They face Stoke in a Knockout Cup semi-final with Dudley awaiting the winners. While the Heathens look certain to top the league, most neutrals expect them to face Mildenhall in the final.

As for this match, Dudley will take plenty of satisfaction from a dominant performance. The visitors will be heartened by victories for Joe Jacobs and Lewis Blackbird over Heathens skipper Adam Roynon.

**Dudley:** Tom Perry 16+1, Adam Roynon 13, Byron Bekker 9, Ashley Morris 6+1, Dan Greenwood 4+2, Darryl Ritchings 3, James White-Williams 3.

**Mildenhall:** Joe Jacobs 13, Stefan Nielsen 9+1, Lewis Blackbird 7, Josh Bates 5, Lewis Kerr 2+1, Ryan Terry-Daley 2+1, Daniel Halsey 2+1.



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**Cradley Town 5  
Willenhall Town 2**  
CRADLEY exploited Willenhall's defensive frailties to the full in this entertaining West Midlands Premier encounter.

The home side had a good shout for a penalty turned down inside the first 30 seconds, and it was no surprise when ex-Willenhall player Sean Williams broke quickly down the left on 15 minutes and centred for Jason Barton to fire home.

On 22 minutes it was 2-0 to Cradley as a shocking back-pass from Josh Edwards fell yards short of debutant keeper Joe McEalen, allowing James Johnson an easy goal.

The Lockmen, who failed to convert three half-chances in the first-half, saw a 50th-minute free-kick hit the wall.

The ball deflected to Cradley, who broke quickly before Barton headed down for Matt Bailey to net.

Willenhall reduced the arrears on 52 minutes when a deep throw was allowed to bounce in the box for Jamel Fuller to hammer home.

Willenhall pressure told when Craig Oldfield headed home a deep 67th-minute free-kick.

However, late goals from substitutes Chris Russell and Lewis Clarke settled the match.

■ Cradley beat AFC Wulfrunians 4-2 at home in midweek.

## Clubs up for the new cup

YOUNG footballers have the chance to compete for a new cup.

The Stourbridge & District Youth and Girls League have launched a new open junior charity challenge cup competition for any boys and girls teams in the under-11 to under-15 age groups.

It has been authorised by the Birmingham County FA and fills the gap left by the demise of the South Staffs Charity Cup a few years ago.

League officials say that all the cup finals will be played on a prestigious ground.

They hope to attract teams from throughout the Midlands area.

All proceeds from the competition will go to charity.

Application forms can be obtained from Roger Smart, 18 Beakes Road, Smethwick, West Midlands, B67 5RU or downloaded from the league website at [www.sdyfl.org](http://www.sdyfl.org)

## Narrow win widens club's improved form

**West Bromwich Dartmouth 181-8, Barnet Green 178. Dartmouth won by three runs**

WEST BROMWICH DARTMOUTH continued their recent improved form with a narrow three-run victory over reigning Birmingham League Premier champions Barnet Green.

Dartmouth lost the toss and were asked to bat first in bowler-friendly conditions.

Despite a battling 24 from James Campbell, Dartmouth slumped to 102-8 before Mark Fisher (49 not out) and Imran Khan (41 not out) put together a partnership of 79 to see Dartmouth through to 181-8.

### West Bromwich Dartmouth CC

Barnet Green's reply was dominated by 77 not out by Richard Wilkinson but they lost wickets at regular intervals.

Naheem Sajjad took three wickets and excellent ground fielding with four run outs saw Dartmouth pinch a three-run victory with just three balls remaining.

**Barnet Green 208-8, WB Dartmouth 143-5. Draw**

Dartmouth seconds secured a draw in the return match with Barnet Green at Sandwell Park.

Mohin Khan and Hiren Patel each took

two wickets as Barnet Green scored 208-8 from their allocated 50 overs.

That proved to be too stiff a target for the home side who lost five wickets before Amit John (37 not out) and Marlon Wijendra (22 not out) led Dartmouth to a draw at 143-5.

**Lichfield 143-8, WB Dartmouth 144-7.**

**Dartmouth won by three wickets**

Dartmouth thirds earned an exciting win at home to Lichfield with just one ball to spare.

The visitors were limited to 143-8 in their

innings as Wahid Khan took 3-47 while there were two wickets each for Aaron Patel and Amandeep Randhawa.

In Dartmouth's reply, Delvin King continued his fine season with 49.

Mitesh Patel scored 43 and Amandeep Randhawa 28 as Dartmouth edged to a three-wicket win with just one ball remaining.

On Saturday Dartmouth are at home to title-chasing Himley, while on Bank Holiday Monday Kidderminster are the visitors to Sandwell Park. Both matches start at noon, refreshments and a bar are available.

**Brace by Ben helps to bag the away win**

**Market Drayton Town 2**

**Halesowen Town 3**

TWO goals in seven seconds-half minutes from Ben Haseley steered Halesowen Town to victory in a tense Evo-Stik Northern League First Division South tussle.

The Yeltz started the better and opened the scoring on 16 minutes when summer signing Craig Milligan let fly from long-range.

The home side hit back to nose ahead thanks to goals either side of the break before Haseley struck his first on 63 minutes, firing home from the penalty spot.

The striker thought he had doubled his tally moments later only to have the effort chalked off by the referee.

But he made amends in the 69th minute, calmly scoring the third to hand Yeltz all three points.

**Halesowen Town 1**

**Mickleover Sports 3**

Halesowen's Division One South debut fell flat after the recently-relegated visitors cruised to victory.

In an even start, Halesowen's Nathan Jones stroked a shot wide and Mickleover's Alex Steadman was denied by goalkeeper Paul Evans.

But Sports' pressure paid off when Steadman drilled home a low shot for a 36th-minute opening goal.

The game effectively ended when home defender Brendan Kelly received a straight red card for a dangerous 51st-minute challenge on Martin Smythe.

Sport went 3-0 up through Karl Ashton and Steadman's second. A late penalty from Ben Haseley was saved but he did fire home a last-minute consolation goal.

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# SPECIAL REASON FOR YACOB'S No.5 SHIRT

**ALBION boss Steve Clarke reckons the tough breeding grounds of Argentinian football have given Claudio Yacob the perfect preparation for the Premier League.**

The 25-year-old was one of the eye-catching successes of an opening day performance which has sent optimism surging in the Baggies camp. Yet Yacob has come to Albion unable to speak any English and with a new team and playing style with which to acclimatise.

"He's settling in very well," said head coach Clarke. "But the Argentinians have a great mentality."

"They're a strong nation and the players tend to settle in well. It's a similar game – a tough, physical league over there. He and Youssef Mulumbu were really good at the weekend. That was among their strengths."

Albion have given Yacob the No.5 shirt for specific reasons in their efforts to make him feel at home.

### Breaks

The number may be associated with central defenders in this country, but to the Argentinians of the Primera Division, it means something else.

Clarke added: "I think he's shown in training and the games that he's played that he is what we thought we'd get – he's an Argentinian No.5, who breaks up play and keeps the ball for his team."

"That's the characteristics for that position and it's what he's done."

Meanwhile, Belgian Romelu Lukaku is out to make up for lost time after a wasted season at Chelsea.

The frustrated £20m forward introduced himself to Hawthorns fans on Saturday with the third goal against Liverpool in a cameo role off the subs' bench. It

by Martin Swain

has whetted the appetite of Baggies fans eager to see more of the 19-year-old.

He finds himself among a log-jam of forwards vying for a starting role after becoming frustrated at his lack of opportunities at Chelsea.

But Clarke reckons the youngster's time will come.

"He moved for big money and there was a lot of expectation on him," said Clarke.

"It didn't quite work out for him at Chelsea last season for whatever reason."

"One of the things he said is that he felt it was like a season wasted and he didn't learn and didn't get enough work in training."

"Hopefully, here we can help to push him on again. He's obviously a talented player. We can help him to learn and as he's learning he'll be helping us as well."

Lukaku found Didier Drogba, Fernando Torres, Salomon Kalou and Daniel Sturridge in his path before Clarke's Chelsea contacts became a major factor in recruiting him.

He added: "I know there was a number of clubs after him. I wasn't surprised he chose to come here. I knew we could offer him something maybe other clubs couldn't."

## Twitter-row riders share the spoils at meeting



SOMETHING to tweet about: Birmingham's Ben Barker on the outside of Wolves' Tai Woffinden in the derby clash at Monmore Green. The two riders were warned before the meeting by referee Ronnie Allan following a spat on Twitter. On the track the honours were even individually, each beating the other once. Woffinden won heat seven, well clear of Barker, but the Selco Brummie managed to relegate his rival to third in the final race, won by Wolves No.1 Freddie Lindgren. On the team front things were not so good for Birmingham, beaten 53-40 to put a dent in their hopes of reaching the Elite League play-offs. Tonight Perry Barr hosts the Jason Lyons Farewell meeting (7.30pm) with a top-class field to honour one of the club's legends. Picture: John Hipkiss Photography



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